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King Hussein invites Rabin's guests to make visit to Jordan

Talks underway on cancellation of Jordan's debts to the US

DAVID MAKOVSKY

KING Hussein has invited the 12 members of the public who accompanied Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to Washington, to visit Amman, the prime minister said on the airplane back home.

Meanwhile, Rabin said details are emerging regarding the US assistance promised to Jordan in return for the peace moves with Israel. Talks between the Jordan, Israel, and the US on economic cooperation began yesterday in Washington, and would continue through Wednesday, he added.

"The king told me that he was moved to hear about each one of you, and was sorry he did not have time to meet each of you. Therefore, I suggested that he invite you to see him in Jordan and he immediately agreed," Rabin told the 12 on the plane.

He repeated the news of the invitation at the press conference he gave upon arriving at Ben-Gurion Airport. A date for the visit was not set, however.

The 12 were invited to go to Washington because of their personal or professional connections to Jordan. Some lost siblings in wars with Jordan or had been prisoners of war held in Jordan. Pnina Herzog was the wife of the late diplomat Ya'acov Herzog, who had several meetings with King Hussein in the 1960s and early 1970s. Dr. Asher Susser, head of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle Eastern Studies, is a leading expert on Jordan.

On the issue of the US forgiving of Jordan's debt to the US, Rabin said the Clinton administration favored a plan whereby $190 million in loans would be wiped off this year and the rest would be dropped over a two- to three-year period. Senior administration officials who have been involved in negotiations with Jordan say the US will try to forgive about $650 million in Jordanian debts.

While the debt forgiveness was pivotal to the success of the Israeli-Jordanian peace talks, Rabin noted that there are Congressional hurdles to overcome.

After the US forgave approximately $7 billion in debts owed by Egypt on the eve of the Gulf war, Congress passed a law making debt relief a budgetary item. In other words, loan forgiveness will have to be matched by offsetting budget cuts, Rabin said.

Israeli officials say that the appearance by both Hussein and Rabin before a joint session of Congress on Tuesday should be seen as part of a strategy to woo Capitol Hill on Jordan's behalf.

Asked if Israel would object to Jordan being provided with F-16 aircraft, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said it was understood that provision of such advanced fighters was linked to a Jordan-Israel peace treaty.

"The F-16s will only be given at the end, and it is tied to movement on peace" Peres said.

Rabin said that early US military assistance to Jordan will be confined to the Jordanian army, rather than its air force. The US has said it would help modernize the Jordanian military, but made clear that Amman would need to reduce its forces, as well.

The prime minister also confirmed that Israel asked its own military favors from the US this week. In a meeting with President Bill Clinton at the White House on Tuesday, Rabin, accompanied by Defense Ministry director-general David Ivri, asked the US to release funds earmarked for the Arrow anti-missile missile.

"There is about $50-$65 million dollars that are related to the Arrow, but have been withheld since previous Arrow tests failed. Now that this test [in mid-June] succeeded, we hope the US will provide the support," Rabin said. Clinton said he would look into the matter.

Israeli targets in US threatened

Missions on alert after second bomb explodes in London

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

A GROUP connected to Hizbullah has threatened to attack Israeli interests in the United States within the next 48 hours, CNN reported yesterday. The Israeli Consulate and UN Mission building in New York City reportedly received a bomb threat. (Story, Page 2)

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that Israeli and American security officials will be meeting shortly to discuss anti-terrorism measures to stem the recent wave of bomb blasts against Jewish and Israeli targets abroad, amid concern that the current wave of terror attacks is just beginning.

A car bomb exploded at 12:46 a.m. in north London yesterday outside Balfour House, which houses offices of Israeli and Jewish organizations including the Joint Israel Appeal.

The attack was the second car-bomb blast in London in 12 hours.

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks, which injured at least 19 people, but Rabin saw it as the work of "radical Islamic terrorists."

Fearful that the three bomb attacks in Britain and Argentina could mushroom into a fresh wave of terrorism against Mideast peacemaking, Israel yesterday called for tighter security at Jewish sites around the globe.

The US State Department said that the Israeli Embassy and consulates in 10 American cities have been put under increased security protection.

Rabin's adviser on terrorism, Yigal Pressler, published a warning to Israeli travelers, urging them to be on alert while vacationing abroad.

"It's really a true blunder of the locals here," Brig.-Gen. Azriel Nevo, the Israeli military attache in London, told Army Radio.

"After the attack of yesterday afternoon, it was possible to take all the steps. Our people gave their evaluation to the British authorities that there was a danger now to the Jewish institutions and, here you are – there was a blast in the middle of the night," Nevo said.

The president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Eldred Tabachnik, said the board had contacted police a month ago with information that terrorist attacks against the Jewish community could be expected.

"They did not share our concern and they did not agree with our analysis. We have in fact been proved tragically right," Tabachnik said. "There's never any total security, but I do believe that had there been an overt police presence, neither of these two tragedies would have occurred."

British police said last night that they had evidence that a group of 10 people were involved with the blasts, including a woman who drove the car with the bomb, BBC reported. The group had lived in the Kensington area for a long time.

Hizbullah in Lebanon yesterday denied any involvement in the attacks.

"We as Hizbullah have no links whatsoever to the bombings that took place in Argentina and London," said Sheikh Naim Kassem, the group's deputy secretary-general.

He said Hizbullah announces its responsibility for attacks against Israeli forces occupying a strip in south Lebanon, "so why should we fear claiming operations in other places?

"The Israeli accusation is a proof of an inability to reveal the real perpetrators," he added.

The British Foreign Office said someone claiming to represent Hamas had made a claim of responsibility for Tuesday's attack against the Israeli Embassy. The claim was not made directly to British authorities, the Foreign Office said.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Paul Condon said a single suspect had not been identified.

He said police were facing "potential suicide bombers who are putting down car bombs and within seconds they are exploding." The Irish Republican Army, which has set off many bombs in London, often gives warnings and gives its operatives plenty of time to get away.

Following the attack at the Israeli Embassy at midday Tuesday, Scotland Yard had imposed a parking ban in front of some buildings used by London's Jewish community – a step it had rejected just a week ago. But parking was not banned outside Balfour House.

Coming only eight days after a deadly attack on a Jewish cultural center in Argentina killed at least 95 people, and the explosion of a commuter plane in Panama that killed 21 people aboard, including 12 Jews, the London violence sparked concern that Jewish targets were facing the worst wave of terror attacks since the mid-1980s.

That was when several synagogues were targeted in Europe, some in retaliation for Israeli military strikes in Lebanon.

Speaking to reporters on his air force plane on the way home from Washington yesterday, Rabin insisted the US is "very interested" in obtaining Israel's help to find out who is behind the recent wave of attacks.

"Preparatory work between US and Israeli officials will be happening," Rabin told reporters. "The Americans are open to our ideas."

(Continued on Page 2)



The scene in North Finchley, London, after a bomb exploded there outside the offices of the Joint Israel Appeal early yesterday morning. (Reuter)

Rabin returns to coalition crisis

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin will hold a special cabinet meeting this morning to brief ministers on the Washington Declaration signed with Jordan's King Hussein.

Afterwards, Rabin will meet Labor's Knesset faction members and political bureau in an effort to solve the crisis over the agreement on returning Shas to the coalition.

The crisis, which erupted while Rabin was in Washington, concerns Shas's demand to reinforce religious laws by retroactive legislation every time the High Court of Justice rules in favor of a civil rights principle which conflicts with Halacha. Meretz balked at this clause,

MICHAL YUDELMAN

which Labor accepted, and is threatening to veto Shas's return to the coalition.

However, opposition to putting religious laws above the High Court of Justice is spreading within Labor as well. The idea was slammed by Justice Minister David Liba'i, who warned it demonstrates contempt for the Supreme Court, opens the way to religious coercion, and would effectively halt the creation of a constitution.

Shas's MK Shlomo Benizri said yesterday that when Rabin returns "he will have to make order in his party and in Meretz as well, and fulfill our demands on religious issues, then we will join immediately, even during the Knesset recess."

Meretz's MK Ran Cohen said his party wants Shas in the coalition, "but only if it comes in with clean hands. We are willing to preserve the status quo on religious affairs, but we will not accept legislation which bypasses the Supreme Court."

Rabin will also have to decide what to do about the maverick Yi'ud faction, which the High Court forbade to accept the positions of minister and deputy minister.

IDF unit tries to save lives in the valley of death

ALON PINKAS

GOMA, Zaire

IF the two valleys of death, Kiwomba and Kibumba, were not enough, if the death rate of one per minute was not sufficiently terrifying, now there is the threat of outbreaks of meningitis, measles and possible yellow fever.

The IDF MASH unit has already treated over 120 people, mostly children. The treatment they received saved – or perhaps only prolonged – their miserable and hopeless lives.

Dikimbi, 9, was admitted yesterday morning with cholera and dehydration; he was near death.

"I think we saved him, but who knows where we are sending him. Life here will probably condemn him to death," said Dr. Shapiro, a reserve major.

Dikimbi, who knows nothing about his parents, nothing about where he came from and less about anything else, is still relatively fortunate. In Kibumba, thousands of bodies lie bloated, decomposed, their eyes open, staring at nothing. The expressions on the faces of most of the living here are not that different.

"It is becoming a political problem," said a Zairean official, Captain Ilonga. "They will have to return to Rwanda, otherwise Zaire will become the problem," he added.

What remains to be seen is how many will survive the solution. Judging by yesterday's visit to hell, not many will.

Dan Izenberg adds:

Israel is the only country that has sent a rescue team to Rwanda so far, Police and Energy Minister Moshe Shahal told the Knesset yesterday.

Shahal addressed the plenum during a special debate on the situation in the African country, torn by civil war and disease.

"I can tell you one thing that is astonishing and makes one wonder," said Shahal. "The Israeli rescue team is the only one of its size there. There are volunteer groups, but so far no teams from countries bigger and wealthier than us have arrived."

The government had originally planned "Operation Sparks of Hope" to last two weeks, during which airlifts were to be sent every four days. "It now looks like the operation will last longer," said Shahal.

At the end of the discussion, the Knesset passed a unanimous resolution calling for the establishment of a UN task force that would address the current crisis.

US in Rwanda, Page 4

Shohat proposes major tax cuts in next year's budget

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat will propose cutting NIS 1.7 billion in taxes next year in an attempt to curb a growing tax burden, according to Treasury budget documents.

The cabinet will meet on Sunday to set next year's budget framework.

The Treasury is proposing to lower taxes by an additional NIS 820 million over the NIS 900m. already included in existing legislation.

About NIS 620m. of the new cuts will come from a 0.9 percent reduction in National Insurance Institute employment taxes. The cut will be evenly distributed between workers and employers. As a result, employers will pay 1.95% in NII tax instead of the current 2.4% and workers will pay 4.9% compared to 5.35%.

In addition, the Treasury is proposing to cut purchase taxes by NIS 200m.

Tax reductions that are already part of budget legislation include

JOSE ROSENFELD

the implementation of the second half of the tax reform on individual income taxes,; the scheduled cut in company taxes from 38% of income to 37%; revenues to be transferred to the Palestinians, and lower import duties, as part of the program to open the market to imports.

Under the tax reform, individual taxes will be cut by NIS 550m., as the 35% tax bracket is eliminated and the remaining brackets broadened, enabling people to earn more before they are pushed into a higher bracket.

The 1% cut in company taxes will reduce revenues by NIS 170m. Lower duties and the transfer of taxes to the Palestinian Authority will cost the Treasury around NIS 100m. each.

Despite all the cuts, everyone may end up paying more taxes. The health insurance tax, which is scheduled to go into effect in October, will increase the tax burden by about NIS 1.25b.

In addition, it is very likely that individuals will have to pay a workers' organization tax, although the Treasury did not include it in its budget calculation since the Knesset has yet to pass the law to implement it.

The Treasury wants to increase expenditures next year by NIS 1.6b. over what would be required under existing legislation, to a total of NIS 113.75b. Revenues, including the NIS 800m. tax cut, would reach NIS 105.1b.

The Treasury wants to set the deficit at 2.75% of the Gross Domestic Product, 0.25% lower than this year's deficit, or about NIS 5.6b.

Although deficit spending is usually recommended at times of high unemployment, it can be a source of inflation once an economy reaches "full employment." The recent dramatic drop in unemployment is bringing the economy closer to that situation. However, crises in various sectors are weighing heavily on the budget.

According to the Treasury document, the government will have to provide a total of NIS 2.5b. in financial assistance to the kibbutzim, Kupat Holim Clalit, and the defense industries. This sum does not include financial assistance to rescue the country's pension funds.

Given that the Treasury is only proposing to increase expenditures by NIS 1.6b., the additional NIS 900m. will have to be cut from budgeted activities to pay for the crises.

Defector: North Korea has nuclear warheads

SEOUL (AP) – North Korea is using negotiations as a stalling tactic while it develops a delivery system and builds more nuclear warheads, a high-ranking defector asserted yesterday.

Kang Myong Do, believed to be a son-in-law of North Korea's premier, told reporters in Seoul that the hard-line Communist country already has five nuclear warheads and will develop five more by the year's end.

"North Korea is buying time to finish its nuclear program by stalling negotiations," said Kang, one of the highest-ranking defectors ever from the secretive state.

The assertions come at a key juncture in the long-running standoff over North Korea's nuclear intentions.

High-level US-North Korea talks are to resume August 5 in Geneva after a one-month hiatus due to the death of longtime leader Kim Il Sung.

North Korea has denied accusations it is developing nuclear weapons, but for 17 months has not allowed international inspections that would prove its claim.

Kang's assertions marked the first time a purported member of the North Korean government's inner circle stated flatly that the North had nuclear weapons.

Kang, who fled via a third country in May, told reporters he had obtained his information from conversations with the intelligence chief responsible for Yongbyon, the North's main nuclear complex.

South Korean intelligence officials believe the 35-year-old Kang is the premier's son-in-law, as he claims.



Bomb threat reported at NY consulate

SUE FISHKOFF and HILLEL KUTTLER
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

FIVE-TON steel-reinforced concrete barricades ring the Israeli Consulate and UN Mission building at Second Avenue and 42nd St., reportedly the target of a bomb threat received between midnight and 3 a.m. yesterday.

New York Police Department spokesmen and consulate officials will not confirm the threat, but a uniformed NYPD officer guarding the entrance to Second Avenue said there was a bomb threat against the two Israeli institutions "early in the morning." Local television news stations were reporting it as a bomb threat all yesterday morning.

Sometime after 1 a.m. Wednesday, several Manhattan police units arrived at the scene and cordoned off the sidewalk. Sanitation cranes unloaded 20 five-ton Jersey barricades in front of the building later yesterday morning, and police investigators are patrolling the area.

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said he and Police Commissioner William Bratton met early yesterday and decided to take the special security measures. "We are responding to conditions that have occurred elsewhere in the world," he said. While he would not confirm a bomb threat, he said, "it's always best to take precautions."

Extra police protection was assigned to several other Jewish institutions in the city as part of the heightened security scheme. A morning memorial service at the Fifth Avenue Synagogue for victims of last week's Buenos Aires bombing was cordoned off.

Consulate spokesman Gidi Mark-Amir said business was continuing as usual at both the consulate and the UN Mission. He said the consulate itself had received no bomb threats.

An Israeli spokesman in Washington said the embassy is tightening its security in light of the recent bombings, but refused to say how. Other embassies and consulates around the US are also taking steps against a possible attack.

CNN reported that among the measures already in force in Washington is the restricting of public parking spots around embassies to embassy and US government vehicles only.

The State Department said yesterday that it still does not know the "exact sponsorship" of the recent Buenos Aires and London attacks, but believes they "are consistent with the pattern we've seen in the past, and that points toward involvement by radical factions including Hizbullah with sponsorship and support by Iran."

The US is assisting in the Buenos Aires probe, said Department spokesman Mike McCurry, adding that the US will be working with law enforcement officials in the UK and will be "contributing our own expertise as need" in order "to verify what we can about the exact nature of each of these attacks."



A member of the IDF's 43-man rescue team to Argentina, which worked 160 straight hours, returns to Israel yesterday. (Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

'London car bombs suggest Iran backing'

Jerusalem Post Staff

CAR bombs, like the two that exploded in London this week, are characteristic of Iranian-trained terror groups, military sources told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Car bombs were used in three other attacks against Jewish or Israeli targets abroad: The 1992 explosion at the Israel Embassy in Buenos Aires, the attempted attack on the Israel Embassy in Bangkok in March and this month's bombing of Jewish community offices in Argentina.

An analysis of these three attacks turns up other striking similarities, which are consistent with Hizbullah terror attacks in Lebanon. Hizbullah leaders, the military sources noted, are trained by Iranians.

There is also the matter of timing: The Bangkok incident occurred shortly after the Machpela Cave massacre, while both attacks in Buenos Aires took place a number of weeks after IDF attacks on Hizbullah. The embassy bombing, in March 1992, occurred just after the assassination of Hizbullah leader Sheikh Abbas Musawi that February, while the attack on the Jewish community offices followed last month's kidnapping of Mustafa Dirani and the IAF attack on a Hizbullah training base, which left 40 dead.

Both Argentina and Thailand, like England, host large Moslem populations that maintain close links with the Iranian embassies in these countries.

London is also the largest center of Hamas in the world, according to the military sources. It issues the Hamas's official publication *Falastin Al-Muslemia*.

Israeli Embassy in London asked UK for more security after Argentine bombing

HERB KEINON and news agencies

IMMEDIATELY after the Buenos Aires bomb attack last week, the Israeli Embassy in London asked the British Foreign Office to increase security around Israeli and Jewish institutions, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said that the Balfour House, bombed early yesterday morning, was among the buildings that was mentioned during the meeting. This building houses several Jewish organizations.

According to a Foreign Ministry official, the Israeli Embassy neither asked for nor expected a reply, since it expected that the matter would be dealt with. He said he did not know if the British did indeed enhance security precautions around the embassy, which was bombed on Tuesday.

Following the attack in Buenos Aires, Israeli embassies around the world were directed to ask for enhanced security arrangements around local Israeli and Jewish institutions.

Yehuda Milo, deputy director-general for Europe, yesterday voiced to British Embassy charge d'affaires John White Israel's "deep concern" over the two London bomb attacks.

White was asked to "urgently relay" Israel's concern to the British government, and was told that Israel hopes the British authorities and security forces "make every effort to safeguard and protect the buildings housing Israeli and Jewish institutions in London and Britain."

Milo stressed that British and international security authorities should be on high alert, since the peace process is liable to prompt terror attacks by radical terrorist organizations trying to sabotage it.

Meanwhile, Belgium tightened security around its Jewish community yesterday.

Police had been asked to step up patrols and tighten surveillance of buildings belonging to the 45,000-strong Jewish community, the Belgian news agency Belga quoted an Interior Ministry official as saying.

Police in Antwerp, which has the world's biggest diamond trade involving many of its Jewish community, had stepped up patrols in the Jewish area since Tuesday evening, it said.

A spokesman at the Israeli Embassy said Jewish groups had asked the Belgian authorities for additional protection.

There were several attacks on Jewish institutions in Belgium in the early 1980s.

A 15-year-old Jewish child was killed in a 1980 attack when a Palestinian threw a grenade at a group of schoolchildren in Antwerp.

Security was also tightened yesterday around France's Jewish community, the world's fourth largest, officials said.

"We have done our normal duty under the circumstances," a senior official of CRIF, the umbrella organization for France's estimated 750,000 Jews told Reuters.

"We are in contact with government authorities who had already taken special precautions when this began, and we hope they will reinforce them together with us," the official said.

She declined to detail the measures which concern dozens of buildings and schools around the country.

A spokeswoman for the Israeli Embassy, always tightly guarded in a closed-off sidestreet near the Elysee presidential palace, declined to give details of extra measures taken there.

Paris was the scene of numerous attacks linked to the Middle East in the 1970s and 1980s including bloody bombings of synagogues and Jewish restaurants, attacks on embassies and airlines and the killing of Palestinian and Iranian exiles and Israeli diplomats.

'Buenos Aires Jews very anxious about security'

RAINE MARCUS

THE Jewish community in Buenos Aires is "extremely anxious" about security arrangements following the second terror attack there in two years, OC Home Front Command Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne said, upon returning last night from Argentina.

Livne led the 43-man rescue team that traveled to the Argentine capital last week to help fire and rescue services reach the victims of the bomb blast.

"The community is highly critical of the Argentine government over slack security precautions," he said.

Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak met the team, which included doctors, paramedics and two dogs trained to detect bodies, at an IAF landing strip in the center of the country.

"Although we searched for documents, that wasn't a critical issue for the community. The main issue was to find bodies," said Maj. Amir, a member of the team.

The team worked for 160 hours non-stop and uncovered 60 bodies. The death toll from the blast has reached at least 95.

Examinations revealed that all victims died at the time of the blast or a few minutes later, said Livne.

"Even if the Argentine rescue teams had worked more quickly, the chances of finding people alive were slim," Livne noted.

The local rescue services, although highly motivated and dedicated, did not have the ability or knowledge to work as quickly as the IDF team, he added. If the Argentinians had worked alone, the operation would have taken a few more weeks, he said.

"This tragedy to the Jewish people was caused by three factors: a booby-trapped car containing hundreds of kilos of explosives, together with an old building which literally crumbled with the explosion. Timing was also a determining factor: The explosion occurred at exactly 9:50 a.m. when many people were in the building," said Livne.

AP adds:

Menem said the person who sold the truck used in the explosion had been detained.

"The vendor is detained and will have to be questioned about involvement," he told a local radio station on Tuesday. He did not identify the person or give further details.

Two people, a Moroccan and an Iraqi, were detained after the bombing. Both have been released.

Round-the-clock guard for 100 London buildings

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

ARMED police mounted a round-the-clock guard on 100 high-risk Jewish community buildings in London last night after terrorists detonated a car bomb outside Balfour House, headquarters of the Joint Israel Appeal, one of the major Jewish communal organizations in Britain.

Waking up to the shock of the second terrorist attack, London's Jewish community experienced a day of roller-coaster emotions, with the mood switching from anger and shock to anxiety and defiance.

There was shock because the terrorists had reached so deeply into North London, home to most of the community, and because the target had been the focal point of Jewish communal life.

Among the staff at both the Israeli Embassy, which had been attacked 12 hours earlier, and Balfour House, there was a determination to get back to their desks as quickly as possible and a reluctance to allow the outrages to interrupt their work-day routine.

But there was also anxiety at the prospect of yet more terrorist outrages, a possibility that one British security official said, was "looking more like an inevitability."

Above all, however, there was anger at what many considered to be inadequate police protection, a subject that is understood to have dominated an emergency meeting late yesterday afternoon between community leaders and British Home Secretary Michael Howard, who is himself Jewish.

At the same time, Israeli Ambassador Moshe Raviv was meeting Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd to discuss security arrangements at both the embassy and Jewish community buildings.

"We regard the security of the embassy and the security of the based ambassadors at the time of the blast, was uncharacteristically tight-lipped when asked to comment on security arrangements.

"We have an ongoing, intensive dialogue with the British authorities on the security situation," he said, "and I prefer not to enter into any details on security arrangements."

The controversy over security was heightened by military attache Brigadier-General Azriel Nevo, who told Israel Radio yesterday morning that the bombings were the result of "a true blunder by the locals here."

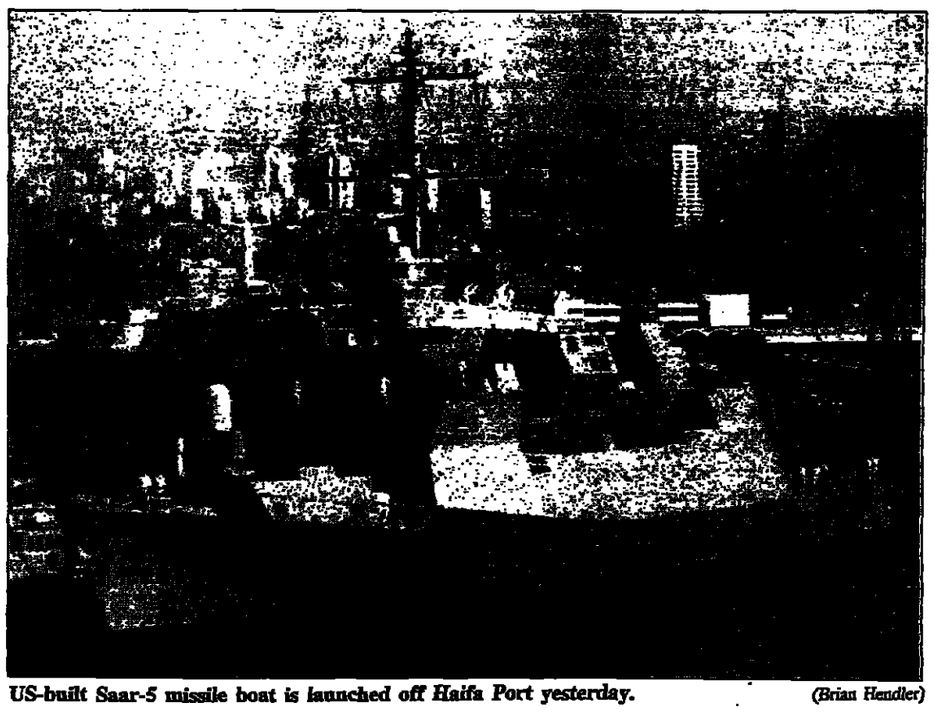
That comment was quickly relayed back to London and echoed around the British capital for the rest of the day, as questions were raised about how a middle-aged woman bomber was allowed to drive her primed car close to the embassy and then simply walk away from it, and why Balfour House had been left unprotected at a time of such high alert.

At a press conference yesterday afternoon, the head of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Paul Condon, insisted that security was constantly being reviewed and that his officers consulted regularly with Israeli officials.

However, there was a note of impatience when he declared that the police could not always comply with the "greater demands" made by Jewish community organizations.

"We are constantly responding to intelligence and to threats," he said. "There are some people who would have liked us to have more parking restrictions [outside communal buildings] but the reality is that a set of parking directives will not deter a potential suicide bomber."

Last night, British security officials started the arduous process



US-built Saar-5 missile boat is launched off Haifa Port yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

Lebanese worried about IDF attack after bombings

DAVID RUDGE

CONCERN is growing in Lebanon over the possibility of a wide-scale IDF operation against Hizbullah, following the Argentina and London bombings and Monday's attacks in the security zone in which a paratroop officer was killed and 13 other soldiers wounded.

One of the wounded, an officer in the Givati Brigade, is still in critical condition at Haifa's Rambam Hospital after undergoing surgery for severe head wounds.

Beirut Radio reported yesterday that the IDF had beefed up its forces in the security zone with more than 20 tanks and 12 artillery batteries. There was no confirmation of the reports from other sources, although news agencies quoted residents in Sidon as saying they expected an Israeli attack.

The agency reports said Lebanese Army troops had been put on maximum alert and had been ordered to respond to any IDF attack countability last summer could not be ruled out.

The newspapers in editorial pieces said that although there was no evidence of involvement in the bombings by Lebanese elements, Israel might use the attacks as a "pretext" for launching a major offensive in Lebanon.

Ad-Diyar noted that the assassination attempt against Israel's former ambassador to Britain Shlomo Argov had been used as the pretext for invading Lebanon in 1982 and that major incidents in London had an "ominous ring."

Hizbullah leaders have strenuously denied allegations that the organization was connected to the bombing attacks in Argentina, London and Panama.

Lebanese analysts, meanwhile, also ridiculed reports that an Islamic group calling itself Ansra-Allah was responsible for the bombing of the Jewish community building in Buenos Aires and the

3 Mizrahi murderers get life sentence

THE Ramallah Military Court sentenced three men to life imprisonment yesterday for the murder last October of Beit El resident Haim Mizrahi.

The three cousins, Said, Nazar and Ahmed Temimi, from the village of Nebi Sallah near Ramallah, were all members of a Fatah gang that ambushed Mizrahi at a poultry farm near Beit El.

The cousins stabbed him as he was putting eggs he had purchased into his car, then kidnapped him and drove off. His body was found the following day in a burned car, some five kilometers away from where he was attacked.

The murder attracted world attention when it was learned that Fatah members were involved, after Arafat had committed his Fatah faction to stop terrorist activities when he signed the Declaration of Principles last September 13. Arafat only condemned the murder after heavy pressure from US and Israeli officials.

It was later discovered that several members of this same Fatah gang had become officers in the Palestinian Police. (Itim)



Haredim crowd onto a balcony in Jerusalem yesterday as they mourn for Margalit Yosef who died earlier in the morning. (Reuter)

Arafat seeks Arab support on J'lem

News agencies

PLO leader Yasser Arafat telephoned Arab leaders to enlist their support on Jerusalem after Israel and Jordan agreed on a special role for King Hussein in the holy city, a PLO official said yesterday.

Arafat's press adviser Nabil Abu Radeineh told reporters the PLO phoned Morocco's King Hassan, Saudi Arabian Defense Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa on Tuesday to press the Palestinian case.

In Cairo yesterday, PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath accused Israel of dismembering Palestinian territory by giving Jordan religious supremacy over Jerusalem and demanded the Arab League reassert that the city is the capital of Palestine.

"Who gave Israel the right to decide who has rights in the Islamic institutions in Jerusalem? One should be very anxious about what they are trying to do on Jerusalem," Shaath told reporters after talks with Israeli negotiators on the self-rule agreement.

He said all Arab countries and peoples – Christian or Moslem – have religious responsibilities and interests in Jerusalem and it is not of importance only to Jordan.

"Christians and Moslems, they all have historical interest in Jerusalem. Jerusalem is not only important for Palestinians but certainly not only important for Jordanians," Shaath said.

He urged the Arab League to spell out the status of Jerusalem as capital of a Palestinian state.

"We want an affirmation of the Arab nature of Jerusalem in the wake of the Washington [meeting]."

"Our problem is with Israel, not Jordan," he added. "Israel has no right [to do that]. There is an agreement between us and Israel that says the final status of Jerusalem, all Jerusalem not East Jerusalem [will be viewed]."

He said the talks being held in Cairo on expanding Palestinian self-rule into other parts of the territories were progressing fast but the overall picture was not very encouraging in Gaza.

"The Israelis are making life very difficult for us in Gaza in the implementation of the agreement. The passages are still in their hands, the free passage is not yet operating," he said.

He said both sides would finish the transfer of education control and health today and would move to complete the overall paper on empowerment, leaving tourism and social welfare for next week.

Israel's chief negotiator, Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothschild, confirmed the two sides were close on education and health issues but said the overall budget for autonomous Palestinian areas was "the main problem." He did not give details.

Shaath said difficult budget questions included who would collect taxes and how deficits would be funded.

He repeated earlier criticisms over implementation of the May 4 Cairo accord.

Shaath said that Israel's failure to follow up on the accord and set up routes for Palestinians to use between Gaza and Jericho was "making life miserable" for families in both areas.

He also complained that Palestinians have not been allowed to set up checkpoints to control entry into the autonomous areas, as stipulated in the accord.

Thousands attend funeral of Ovadia Yosef's wife

HERB KEINON

THOUSANDS of people attended the funeral yesterday of Margalit Yosef, the wife of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, who died at Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem early yesterday morning.

Yosef, 69, suffered a massive heart attack on Shavuot, and never regained consciousness. She then suffered irreversible brain damage from a blood clot, and was unconscious ever since. Yosef, the mother of 11 children, was married to her husband for 50 years.

The funeral procession which began at the Porat Yosef Yeshiva in Geula was attended by numerous rabbinic and political dignitaries. Among the politicians were Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet, Labor MKs Eli Dayan and Rafi Edri, Likud MK David Levy, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, Moledet's Yosef Ba-Gad and the six Shas MKs.

Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Orbach, one of the leading halachic authorities in the country and someone who has come out strongly against Shas's participation in the government, also attended the funeral, as did chief rabbis Eliezer Bakshi-Doron and Yisrael Meir Lau. Yosef was buried in the capital's Sanhedria cemetery.

"A Tora sage is likened to the Tora itself," Bakshi-Doron said in his eulogy. "Now the Tora is standing in sadness."

Lau said that Yosef was her "husband's defender and protector, his ears, eyes and mouth. She bore the burden... she knew when to keep people from bothering him, she guarded his health, because she knew that he is needed for all Israel."

Although Yosef's influence on the political decisions of her husband was not brought up in the eulogies, she was known to advise him on all matters, including political ones.

David Glass, a Shas legal adviser, told Army Radio that although she was not publicly involved in politics, she definitely played a role, and was well aware of what went on in the many meetings held in her home.

"She sat in an adjacent room and listened attentively to everything that went on, and when everyone left she would tell the rabbi her opinion," he said.

Glass said that after her stroke, "the rabbi took it very hard. He continued to go on as usual in public, but during his free time he sat near her bed and cried. I don't know if this will reduce his involvement in politics, but Rav Ovadia won't be the same rabbi he was beforehand."

Mrs. Yosef was born in Aleppo, Syria, and married soon after she immigrated here in the 1940s. Her father, Rabbi Avraham Moshe Halevy Fatal, was the chief rabbi of Aleppo.

Gaza, Jericho are asylum for terrorists, Hefetz says

BILL HUTMAN

SECURITY officials are concerned that Palestinian terrorists and criminals are escaping into the autonomous areas of Jericho and Gaza.

Yesterday, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz called on the Palestinian Police to return Palestinians wanted by the Israeli authorities.

"Jericho and Gaza have become asylums for Palestinian criminals and terrorists," Hefetz told reporters, during a tour of Hebron.

He said the Palestinian Police have failed to live up to their commitment to help catch terrorists who flee into their jurisdiction.

With regard to criminals, however, the Palestinian Police are cooperating with the Israeli authorities, according to Hefetz.

He said he could not confirm or deny reports that the assailant in Tuesday's Neveh Ya'acov stabbing had escaped to Jericho. A senior police source said it appeared the suspect fled there.

During the tour, the inspector-general reviewed the new security procedures at the Machpela Cave and met with Jewish leaders in Hebron.

Reporters accompanying Hefetz were to have gone inside the Machpela Cave, but were halted at the last minute by order of OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran.

Hefetz, meanwhile, said the police force would be doubled in Hebron, as part of an overall police redeployment in the territories.

Government postpones vote on Gaza/Jericho Accord legislation

DAN IZENBERG

THE government withdrew its enabling legislation for the implementation of the May 4 Gaza/Jericho Accord yesterday after discovering it lacked the support of Meretz and the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality and did not have a majority.

To make matters worse for the government, the Likud announced it would turn the vote on the legislation into a no-confidence motion.

In a face-saving gesture, party leaders said they would convene a special plenary session to pass the bill next week. However, they did not explain how the government would persuade their left-wing allies to change their minds in the meantime.

One Labor MK said the only way to pass the bill would be to delete the section dealing with restricting PLO activity in eastern Jerusalem.

Such a move, however, would be a severe blow to the prestige of the government, which drafted the legislation to counter opposition attacks that it has failed to prevent the PLO from establishing a political presence in eastern Jerusalem.

A party official said Labor leaders are waiting for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to return home and "restore order" in the coalition.

Yesterday, the government could only count on the support of the Labor Party for the legislation. Democratic Arab Party leader Abdul Wahab Darawshe said his two-man faction was "hesitating" over whether to support the bill.

Meretz decided to allow its members to vote according to their conscience. Several of them, including Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban and MK Naomi Chazan, made it clear they would vote against the bill. The Meretz representatives oppose Section Five, calling for the restriction of PLO institutions inside Israel.

Tamar Gozansky (DFPE) said her party also opposed Section Five.

Gonen Segev (Yi'ud) said his faction had not decided how to vote on the bill.

The position of Shas was unclear.

Right, left form unlikely alliance over bill blockage

ANALYSIS

DAN IZENBERG

THE right- and left-wing parties in the Knesset have formed an unlikely blocking majority to prevent approval of government enabling legislation, entitled Implementation of the Agreement Regarding the Gaza District and the Jericho Area.

The law consists of 12 sections dealing with security, judicial and economic matters.

Justice Minister David Liba'i explained that the legislation was not innovative in and of itself, but was a technical act meant to provide legal solutions to changes created by the Gaza/Jericho Agreement.

That assessment, however, does not apply to Section 5, entitled "Restricting the Palestine Authority and the PLO." This part of the legislation was drafted in response to PLO attempts to anchor its political presence in eastern Jerusalem as part of a campaign to make it the capital of an independent Palestinian state. The section's aim is to curtail PLO activities in eastern Jerusalem.

The key provision of Section 5 is Paragraph 8, which stipulates that the government may issue a writ forbidding the opening or operation of any institution representing the PLO and disperse or deny permission for any gathering organized or sponsored by the PLO in any territory where Israeli law applies.

The fate of the legislation stands or falls on Section 5. During Tuesday's debate, MKs from Meretz, the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality and the Democratic Arab Party warned they would not vote for it.

The opposition, meanwhile, attacked the Jerusalem section from the opposite point of view, saying it did not go far enough in restricting PLO activity. Several opposition speakers also criticized the following provisions of the bill:

- Section 3, Paragraph 3: A committee appointed by minister of justice will examine requests to pardon Palestinians detained or sentenced to jail in Israeli courts. The committee will take over the prerogatives of the president of the state and chief of general staff in this matter.
- Section 3, Paragraph 4: Israel will not try Palestinians suspected of having committed a crime prior to the signing of the September 13 Declaration of Principles, if their entry into Gaza and Jericho has been authorized by the government.

Nevertheless, the opposition parties were less concerned with the legislation than the treaties which inspired it. They stressed that their rejection of the bill was a matter of principle, since they categorically oppose the Oslo and Cairo agreements.

Hanan Porat (NRP) took this point of view to the extreme when he declared that "We do not regard the Oslo Accords as being in effect. When we come to power we plan to cancel them and turn them into dust. Therefore, anything that emanates from the accords has no significance for us."

The government has come out of the battle for this legislation with egg on its face. It held back the legislation until the last minute, then rushed it into the Knesset by circumventing normal procedures, only to find that it had lacked a majority all along.

It appears that Labor Party leaders forgot to consult with their coalition partners and took it for granted that what was good for Labor was good for them. It is not the first time they have made this mistake.

Right-wing MKs meet Shahal

BILL HUTMAN

A GROUP of right-wing MKs met with Police Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday in an effort to ease tensions sparked by recent incidents between police and right-wing demonstrators.

A police spokesman said Shahal and Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz agreed better communication was needed between the sides.

But Shahal also warned the MKs that the police were cracking down on protests held without the proper permits, the spokesman added.

Shahal said his senior adviser, deputy commander Yisrael Sadan, would be available to the MKs if they felt "special" intervention was needed during a demonstration, the spokesman said.

But, if the demonstration was being held without a permit, the organizers would not have the right to appeal to Sadan, Shahal said.

The MKs, from the Likud and national Religious Parties, met with Shahal, Hefetz, and Sadan at the Knesset.

Rabin, Peres chill lowers the heat in Washington

DAVID MAKOVSKY

FIERCE sun and humidity combined to make Washington a hot place for Israel-Jordan peace, but the icy chill between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was still evident.

While the two have made Herculean efforts over the last two years to hide their mutual animosity, the old tensions have resurfaced at a time when Rabin and Peres should have been at their happiest.

Throughout his stay in Washington, where he was relegated to the sidelines, Peres looked decidedly downcast.

But Rabin made Peres feel even worse, both in public remarks and in briefings with reporters. At issue was the question of who deserved credit for the breakthrough with Jordan.

Peres has often taken credit for the landmark Israel-PLO accord last year. While attending talks with high-ranking Jordanian and US officials on the Jordanian shore of the Dead Sea last week, Peres declared, "at the Dead Sea, I laid the foundation for the new Middle East."

Privately, Rabin acknowledges the role Peres played during the latter's secret talks with Jordan last November. But the premier insists Peres had nothing to do with the current breakthrough with Jordan, which he said began when he, Rabin, and Hussein, met in in London on May 19th.

At another occasion, Rabin took a poke at Peres' famed vision, declaring "I am not a visionary. I like to do practical things."

NEWS IN BRIEF

1 dead, five hurt in head-on accident

One person was killed and five were injured in a head-on collision last night in the western Galilee. Police said one of the cars apparently veered into oncoming traffic. The victims of the accident were residents of a village in the area. Both of the cars overturned and tumbled into a ditch. *Itim*

Ethiopian newcomers find permanent housing

Of the 3,850 Ethiopian immigrant families who were living in caravan sites a year ago, some 2,100 of them have found permanent housing solutions, according to an Absorption Ministry report released yesterday.

The report said that 1,730 of the families had already bought homes, most of them through the government's special mortgage program for Ethiopian immigrants. However, only 1,100 families have moved into the homes they purchased.

The report also noted that the immigrants tended to purchase apartments either near relatives or near the caravan sites. *Itim*

PLO says it only received $12m. from donors

Mohammed Nashashibi, who holds the finance portfolio in the Palestinian Authority, said in an interview with the Jerusalem-based *Al-Quds* yesterday that international donors had given just $12 million to the PLO in the last two months, despite promises of much more.

He also said the authority was not yet raising taxes to cover its $580 million annual budget and that Palestinian Police salaries had been reduced.

International donors promised about $600 million in the first year of Palestinian self-rule, part of $2.4 billion vouched over five years.

But most of that is earmarked for development projects, not the operating costs of the authority. Donors are demanding better accountability before the money is handed over. *Reuter*

13 drug dealers arrested in South

Thirteen drug dealers were arrested yesterday in Beersheba as a part of a drug crackdown by Negev District Police. During the sweep, police confiscated 273 grams of heroin, cellular phones and more than NIS 10,000.

The arrests followed five months of intensive work by undercover policemen. The dealers are suspected of selling to a number of criminals, some of whom were also arrested during the operation. *Amir Rozenblit*

Ministry trying to delay meat price hikes

The Industry and Trade Ministry announced yesterday that it is taking steps to prevent a rise of the price of imported meat, in light of recent price increases in South America, the country's main meat supplier.

Meat prices in Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay have jumped between 10% and 15% due to seasonal factors and to the linkage of Brazil's currency to the dollar. Although prices are expected to moderate by the end of the year, the ministry will make efforts to avoid price increases until after the holidays.

Millers fear Palestinian mills will force closures

Flour mill owners fear that several mills will have to close as the Palestinians in the autonomous areas establish their own mills. The millers yesterday asked Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish to create a mill closure fund to help restructure the industry.

The millers also asked Harish to change government policy, which requires them to buy US wheat, which is more expensive than European wheat. Should they be able to purchase cheaper wheat, the millers said flour prices and the price of baked goods would go down.

Harish promised to look into the matter together with the ministries of finance and agriculture.

Palestinian TV station: IDF raided us

The owners of a private Palestinian television station said the army shut it down and confiscated its equipment yesterday, on grounds it was broadcasting "inciteful" programs.

They said soldiers detained and questioned the four owners of the al-Ru'aa station in the town of Beit Sahur, before releasing them on bail.

"They took everything. They even ripped the electrical wiring and took us for questioning," said Walid Kumsiyeh, one of the station's owners.

An IDF spokeswoman said she was checking the report.

Kumsiyeh said Israel had licensed the station before it began broadcasting in mid-June. He denied broadcasting any political programs, saying they were putting only children and family programs on the air. *Reuter*

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the Queen of spades, nine of hearts, nine of diamonds and nine of clubs.

Come and visit Israel's second holiest city:

Hevron

Sunday, July 31 (Menachem Av 23)
Departure: 8 a.m. sharp, Independence Park, Agron St.
(next to Rehavia Cab)

Itinerary:

8:00 Departure from Agron St. (Independence Park)

8:45 Arrival in Hevron, Beit Hadassah, This structure was built by the Hadassah Woman's Organization at the beginning of the century as a medical clinic. Coffee will be served at the apartment of Rabbi Moshe Bleicher, Head of the Shavei Hevron Yeshiva.

9:15 Visit at the studio of Shmuel Mushnik, artist.

9:30 Museum in Beit Hadassah, established to perpetuate the memory of Jews who died in the 1929 riots in Hevron.

10:00 Tour of Beit Romano, which was originally the home of S'de Hemed and was built more than a 100 years ago.

11:00 Tour in Admot Yishai. The burial place of Yishai and Ruth, the forbears of King David.

11:20 Avraham Avinu neighborhood, This is the restored Jewish quarter in Hebron.

11:45 The Settlers' Restaurant. This is the temporary home of the Yeshiva; observation point for the Cave of the Patriarchs.

12:30 Departure for Jerusalem.

Please bring a hat. Cold drinks will be served during the entire trip as needed.

Fee: Adults - NIS40. Children (under 12) - NIS25.
For information and reservations, call 02-920111. 02-932176 (NS).

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US considers sending troops into Rwanda

JIM ABRAMS
WASHINGTON

THE military is looking into how it can aid the relief effort inside Rwanda, but no decisions have been made about sending US troops into the war-devastated African nation, the White House said yesterday.

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers confirmed that a survey group headed by a US general "will look at the Kigali airport with an eye toward deciding whether it can be used effectively as a staging area" for bringing relief supplies in.

She said there are now US troops in Uganda and around the refugee camp at Goma, Zaire, but that no decision has been made about sending them into Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, or other areas of the country.

The administration has committed up to 4,000 troops for humanitarian efforts and has suggested they might help set up way stations inside the country to encourage the 2 million refugees who have fled across the border to return home. Myers said US personnel will not join the UN peacekeeping force being formed.

Administration officials on Tuesday rebutted criticism that the US response to the Rwandan refugee crisis was too little and too late, pointing to the military's flow of food and water-purification equipment.

"It is not too late for the living," Agency for International Development chief J. Brian Atwood told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

He and other officials acknowledged that the United States was caught off guard by the magnitude of the crisis and speed with which it developed. More than 2 million Rwandans have streamed out of the country since Tutsi-led forces won a civil war over their Hutu rivals. Some 11,000 have died in the border town of Goma alone, where more than 1 million refugees are stranded.

Atwood said "the US government response so far has been massive, aggressive and as immediate as possible."

Human rights and relief officials testifying at the hearing said the current crisis could have been averted had the United States intervened to stop the mass killings of up to 500,000 civilians during the war and opposed a UN decision in April to withdraw most UN troops from the country.

"The US response to genocide in Rwanda was extremely disappointing," said Alison Des Forges of Human Rights Watch-Africa. "The disaster in Rwanda apparently failed to capture the attention of the president until millions fled the country within the past two weeks" following the Tutsi victory, she said.

"It's safe to say we did not respond as adequately as we should have early on," said Sen. Paul Simon, chairman of the Foreign Relations subcommittee on African affairs.

But Atwood replied that he "did not hear any voices up here" on Capitol Hill for US military intervention to stop the civil war that triggered the refugee crisis in the small central African country.

"The response of the United States since the exodus began on July 13 has been beyond reproach and I feel very proud," the AID chief said.

With $250 million committed for US relief operations, water purification equipment arrived Monday at the refugee center in Goma and tons of food, medical supplies and vehicles for distribution are coming in daily, he said.

And with the US military providing the logistics, relief organizations will soon be able to provide all the food needs, about 600 tons a day, for Goma, up from about 10 percent last week, Atwood said.

"I don't think, frankly, that our response could have been more rapid," said George Moose, assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

Atwood spoke of several positive signs coming from the government that took power after Hutu-led forces were defeated in the war. (AP)



Orphaned Rwandan children, suffering from cholera, lie clustered together on a mat in an orphanage at Mdosho, where more than 4,000 children have been left without parents during the Rwandan civil war. (Reuter)

UN convoy shot at in Bosnia, two hur

DAVID CRARY
SARAJEVO

A UN convoy came under intense small arms fire yesterday as it neared the road into Sarajevo that Bosnian Serbs had closed, the United Nations said. Two British peacekeepers were wounded and an oil tanker ablaze.

The attack could have paved the way for the United Nations to request NATO air strikes to protect peacekeepers. NATO warplanes over the area already had requested an "air presence" as a possible prelude to air strikes.

The attack came just hours after Serbs stopped all traffic to Sarajevo, in effect accomplishing their strangulation of the Bosnian capital.

UN officials said evidence indicated Serbs were responsible.

"The nearest position to the convoy was the Bosnian Serb position, and the convoy was hit by small arms fire," said Paul Risley, a UN spokesman in Zagreb, Croatia. "So our presumption is that it was the Bosnian Serbs."

The Serbs, in announcing the closure of the route to civilian and commercial traffic Tuesday, had specified that UN vehicles would be allowed to use it.

UN official Claire Grimes said the convoy was taking fuel from the British base in Vitez, northwest of Sarajevo, to Gorazde, southeast of the capital. She said the attack was without warning.

The road closure followed the Serbs' refusal last week to accept a peace plan that would cut Serb territorial holdings from 70 percent to 49 percent, and give Bosnian Croats and Moslems the rest.

Foreign ministers of the states that authored the plan – the United States, Russia, France, Britain and Germany, will meet Saturday in Geneva to consider their next step in light of the Serb rejection.

The Croats and Moslems have accepted the plan, hoping the international community will exempt their Bosnian federation from an arms embargo imposed on the warring parties if the Serbs continue to oppose it.

For the four months the "Blue Route" had been the source of roughly half the city's food, and provided the only land access to the surrounded city. After learning that the road would be blocked, angry shoppers flooded markets, buying out stocks of flour, sugar and other staples.

Bosnian Premier Haris Silajdzic said Tuesday that his government expected UN officials to persuade the Serbs to reopen the vital road.

"It is not only crucial for Sarajevo, it's crucial for the peace process," he said.

But Grimes said Bosnian Serbs had not responded to a letter from Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy to the former Yugoslavia, urging the route to be reopened.

Bosnian Serbs said they had canceled their March agreement for overland access to Sarajevo because the Moslem-led government was smuggling arms into the capital. The Serbs also accused the government of failing to honor an agreement regarding prisoner-of-war exchanges.

However, Grimes said the UN had uncovered no weapons shipments during random searches of trucks entering Sarajevo.

Regarding the POW exchange, she said both sides appeared responsible for the delay, with the Bosnian government demanding that the Serbs first provide a list of missing civilians.

The actual road closing was carried out by UN peacekeepers, not Bosnian Serbs. Grimes said the United Nations considered the Serb decision to be an implicit threat to shoot at civilian vehicles using the road, and did not want to jeopardize security at the airport, which it uses to fly in relief goods. (Reuter)

Russian get-rich scheme collapsing

MOSCOW (Reuter) – Thousands of Russians queued outside the country's best-known investment fund yesterday after the organisation stopped buying back its shares in most locations.

Some had waited overnight to sell their shares, fearing the gravy train of endlessly-rising prices had come to an abrupt halt.

"It seemed like a golden opportunity, buying shares at 50,000 roubles ($24) and selling them a few weeks later at 100,000 ($48)," said Alexander, a doctor. "I would have sold three days ago if only I had known."

The company, MMM, had promised rising buy-back prices in aggressive daily advertisements on Russian television. It said its shares could be freely bought and sold and published quoted prices in newspapers and in nightly broadcasts every day.

"Hurry to buy, don't hurry to sell," said one slogan from MMM, which claimed 10 million Russians had bought its shares.

But the sell option seemed to shrink this week when the firm stopped buying shares in most locations after series of warnings about its financial health. It had 60 offices in Moscow and 76 more in 49 Russian regions.

Officials at the Russian finance ministry had likened MMM to a classic pyramid scheme, where cash from new share purchases is used to buy back old shares at ever rising prices.

When new investment dries up, the cash to pay dividends or buy shares back at higher rates dries up as well.

Tax officials accused the company of irregularities.

Yesterday signs posted outside branch offices told investors to go to the headquarters in southern Moscow. But at headquarters a chaotic queue snaked its way around the building as investors waited for news.

Traffic tailed back for several km along the busy Varshavskoye Chaussee as investors struggled to park. Many abandoned their cars on the pavement and walked the last few hundred metres.

"We are not buying shares at our branch offices at the moment because the police cannot provide security for people buying shares and for the money being delivered," MMM spokesman Georgy Afanasyev said by telephone.

"The interior ministry has promised that by tomorrow they would provide security for people buying shares."

The shares traded at about 110,000 roubles ($54) before the firm halted the automatic buyback this week. A few investors offered 30,000, 40,000 or 50,000 roubles ($15, $20, $24) to buy shares outside the headquarters yesterday. But most were queueing to sell.

"I want to buy a car with the money from my shares," said scientist Pavel, 62. "There is no way I can afford a new car with the money I earn now, but with the help of MMM I can."

Democrats yawn at Whitewater, Republicans promise revelations

WASHINGTON (AP) – Democrats yesterday dismissed congressional hearings into Whitewater as a boring partisan exercise, but Republicans say they've set the stage for interrogating White House aides who handled damage control for President Clinton.

No startling revelations emerged Tuesday about the sole topic of the opening day of hearings – the contacts between senior White House aides and banking regulators with knowledge of the investigation into Clinton's former land venture in Arkansas.

"It's pretty boring," Rep. Jim Bacchus, a Florida Democrat who is a member of the House Banking Committee, said yesterday of the opening day's hearing. "In the morning, the place was packed; in the afternoon there were empty seats. And I think we'll see more empty seats as the hearings continue."

Republicans see it differently.

"I think there's going to be a lot more to be seen," said Rep. Bill McCollum, a Florida Republican, citing what he called "the threat that's out here to the independence of the criminal investigators ... from the president of the United States and the White House staff." McCollum and Bacchus were interviewed on Fox TV.

A full day's testimony by the lone witness, White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler, demonstrated how Whitewater has grown over the months.

Whitewater, shorthand for a collection of failed Arkansas banking and real estate deals, first came up during the 1992 presidential campaign and has been enmeshed in politics ever since.

Republicans saw cronyism, undue influence and conflicts of interest in the Clintons' behavior while the president was Arkansas governor and his wife was a leading Little Rock attorney.

After the election, as the Clintons and their aides dealt with various Whitewater investigations, the Republicans accused them of trying to influence federal agencies, withhold information and mislead the public.

The public only learned last February of a single contact between the White House and banking regulators. Cutler testified he now knows of more than 30 such contacts.

In a House Banking Committee hearing that Rep. Stephen Neal, a North Carolina Democrat, called a "politically motivated sideshow," Cutler said again and again that White House aides made errors in judgment – but "violated no ethical standards."

US envoy in Africa attracts wild abuse

MADRID (AP) – Imperialist. Bandit. Devil.

John Bennett has been called a lot of nasty names since he took charge of the US Embassy in Equatorial Guinea three years ago and waded into one of Africa's darkest human rights quagmires.

His complaints about how President Teodoro Obiang's agents jail, torture and sometimes murder opponents once prompted Equatorial Guinean diplomats to call him "invalid interlocutor" in a communique to the US government.

Less tactful was a February 1993 letter delivered by an anonymous messenger later identified by the US Embassy as a high government official.

"As we know you are a bandit, adventurer, devil and imperialist," the letter said. "You will go to America as a corpse because the people are fed up with you."

Obiang and his agents won't have Bennett around for long. A career diplomat who has served in Mexico, Uganda, and Nigeria, he's leaving for a posting in Panama when his tour in Equatorial Guinea finishes at the end of the July.

The government won't miss him. But opposition politicians worry that they have lost their most outspoken foreign friend.

"Mr. Bennett has been the standard-bearer of human rights in Equatorial Guinea," Severo Moto, the country's leading opposition figure, said recently in Madrid. "There has been no case of arrest or torture in Equatorial Guinea in which John Bennett hasn't intervened."

Equatorial Guinea, consisting of the island of Bioko and a rectangle of the mainland between Cameroon and Gabon, plunged into despotic rule after winning independence from Spain in 1968.

International pressure forced the government to hold multiparty legislative elections last November, but the principal opposition parties and the largest ethnic minority, the Bubi, boycotted the vote. International observers said the vote was tainted by fraud and intimidation, and Obiang's party declared itself the overwhelming winner.

In such a setting, opponents of the regime look to Spanish, French, and other ambassadors for protection – but to none more so than John Bennett.

In late 1992, for example, security forces rounded up and tortured 120 students, teachers and priests. Bennett and other ambassadors tried to meet with top government officials to complain, but the authorities refused.

"We could hear at night the prisoners literally being beaten one by one," Bennett said in a telephone interview from Malabo, the capital. "We could hear their screams in the middle of town."

So Bennett and the others paraded to security police headquarters to protest in person. Eventually, government ministers showed up to meet them, and within a week the prisoners were released.

Such examples abound. Equatorial Guineans know where to turn when a friend or relative is picked up by police or elite security troops. Bennett says he usually hears about arrests within 20 minutes, and inevitably he lets the government know he's in on the secret.

Even at their most diplomatic, government officials cannot conceal their contempt for the American.

"What we've seen is that for him the bad guys in the movie are the government and the good guys are the opposition," Foreign Minister Miguel Oyono said in a telephone interview.

Turkish foreign minister resigns

ANKARA (Reuter) – Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, upset to have learned from newspapers of plans to dismiss him, resigned yesterday, clearing the way for a reshuffle.

"No foreign minister of any democratic country has been removed from office, without being informed, while abroad," he said in announcing his resignation.

President Suleyman Demirel, who returned from a visit to Iran yesterday, was reported to have refused to dismiss Cetin, in his post since November 1991.

A foreign ministry official said Cetin had submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and Deputy Prime Minister Murat Karayalcin, who is also the leader of the SHP.

News that Karayalcin planned to replace Cetin emerged last weekend while the foreign minister was accompanying Ciller on an official visit to Paris.

• Turkish forces killed at least 70 rebel Kurds 20 km inside Iraq in their first cross-border air raid in two months, officials said yesterday.

Armed Forces spokesman Colonel Dogu Silahcioglu said Tuesday's air strikes killed more than 70 guerrillas of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) and destroyed a munitions store.

Arrest warrant for Italian PM's brother

MILAN (AP) – Prosecutors have issued an arrest warrant for Paolo Berlusconi, brother of Premier Silvio Berlusconi, in a widening corruption probe of his business empire, news reports said yesterday.

Earlier this week, Salvatore Sciascia, head of the Finivest group's tax division, admitted that he authorized the payment of bribes to Italian tax authorities. Sciascia also said that Paolo Berlusconi had provided and approved the bribes, according to news reports.

Suspected terrorists admit racketeering in US

ST. LOUIS (AP) – Three Palestinian immigrants accused of plotting to kill American Jews and bomb the Israeli Embassy in Washington on behalf of the Abu Nidal terrorist group have pleaded guilty to racketeering.

A fourth suspect already on death row awaits trial on federal murder-conspiracy charges in the stabbing death of his 16-year-old daughter, allegedly killed to stop her revealing the conspiracy.

The FBI recorded him shouting "Die! Die quickly! Die, my daughter, die!" in Arabic as he stabbed her. Her mother held her down.

Tawfiq Musa, 45, of Racine, Wisc., and brothers Saif Nijmeh, 35, of St. Louis, and Luie Nijmeh, 30, of Dayton, Ohio, pleaded guilty yesterday to one count each of racketeering. They each face up to 20 years in prison at their Oct. 21 sentencing.

The three admitted involvement in a criminal enterprise that included smuggling money and information, buying weapons, recruiting members, illegally obtaining passports, obstructing investigations and helping plan terrorist acts, US Attorney Edward L. Dowd Jr. said. The fourth man, Zein Isa, 63, is scheduled for trial Sept. 19.

Experts on terrorism and the Mideast have called the men too careless, too brazen and, in one case, too old to be members of the Abu Nidal group, a highly disciplined band of killers.

The Abu Nidal group, which split from the PLO in 1973, is blamed for hundreds of deaths and injuries.

The four suspects had faced life in prison if convicted of all charges in the six-count 1993 indictment that says they plotted to kill Jews, blow up the Israeli Embassy in Washington and kill anyone who could expose them, including Isa's daughter, Palestina.

Millionaire pours millions of his own money into California Senate race

ALAN ELSNER
LOS ANGELES

CAN you buy a seat in America's most exclusive club – the US Senate?

That question is being asked with renewed urgency these days as Republican Michael Huffington has already spent $9 million of his own money challenging Democrat Senator Dianne Feinstein in a key California election and is prepared to spend millions more.

The 46-year-old Huffington's use of his personal fortune, said to be around $70 million, has become a key issue in the campaign which is drawing increasing national attention.

"Can a rich newcomer with almost no political base or record buy himself a US Senate seat?" *Los Angeles Times* columnist George Skelton recently asked.

Huffington is hardly unique in spending his own money to advance his political ambitions and some analysts worry that Congress is becoming a millionaires' club.

A recent report in Roll Call, the newspaper of Congress, said there were 28 millionaires in the Senate and 72 in the House, a 17 percent increase in the House since 1991.

Perhaps the ultimate example of using one's own money to gain elected office came in the 1992 presidential race when billionaire Ross Perot spent $70 million to finance his independent bid, which won 19 percent of the vote.

Huffington says the money issue is an invention of the media.

In an interview, he said no ordinary voter had ever asked him about it on the campaign trail. And he argues that spending his own money is better than raising funds from special interest groups in exchange for later political favors.

"I'm running against Mrs Feinstein, who spent $35 million on political campaigning since 1990. Her name recognition was 100 percent. My name identification is 50 percent and I need to get it way up," he said.

Huffington grew up in a middle class family near Houston and attended public schools. His father was an oil company geologist who eventually started his own natural gas company. He struck it rich when Huffington was in his 20s. They sold the company in 1990.

"I still go to cafeterias and hamburger restaurants. I live in larger houses and have nicer clothes but being rich hasn't changed my attitude. I think I'm the same person," Huffington said.

The vast majority of Huffington's spending has gone into a series of aggressive television advertisements. So far, the tactic appears to be working brilliantly.

Huffington started the race 30 points behind the popular Feinstein in the polls. Now, they are virtually neck and neck in what has become a vital battle in the November 8 elections.

The Democrats, who are bracing for substantial losses nationally, desperately need Feinstein to win if they are to avoid losing their 56-44 seat majority in the Senate. Republicans meanwhile are licking their lips at the prospect of what would be a huge upset.

In the past six weeks, Huffington spent $100,000 a day and Feinstein around $62,000. It creates a difficult dilemma for the incumbent.

Does she match Huffington's spending now and risk running short of money down the stretch? Or does she hold off and risk having her record trashed beyond redemption?

Huffington says he is running on a platform of halting the growth of big government and rolling back the welfare state. He speaks of reviving the family, revitalising neighborhoods and communities and recreating the past spirit of charity and volunteerism to solve the country's social problems.

Many of these ideas also appear in a recent book, *The Fourth Instinct, the Call of the Soul*, by Huffington's wife, Arianna Stassinopoulos Huffington.

Arianna, Greek born and British educated, has published biographies of Picasso and Maria Callas, and is a Washington political hostess. A recent *Washington Post* profile of the two of them was headlined, "Her brains, his money." (Reuter)

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Girl's outfit by Healthtex is part of a line of children's wear and clothing for preteens imported by Best of U.S. Ltd.

Children go American

FLAIR

GREER FAY CASHMAN

"YOU don't have to *schlepp* from the States any more," says Beaty Gordon, co-director of Best of U.S. Ltd. She and her husband Donny set up the import company with a view to bringing in attractive, good-quality, durable children's wear and specialty clothing for preteens, at prices in line with those charged in the US.

The Gordons, who worked as a nurse and a CPA respectively in their native New York, arrived in Israel two years ago with their five young children.

Casting around for a livelihood, they realized that almost everyone they knew who went to the States on business or a vacation came back with a suitcase full of children's clothing.

Israelis wouldn't have to waste so much time or foreign currency on shopping, they reasoned, if the same garments were available in Israel, costing more or less the same.

Deciding which labels to carry was easy. They took a survey of all the hand-me-downs their own children were wearing, and "those that still looked good were the brands we went after."

The brands in hand so far are Healthtex, Carters, Plum Pudding, Mousefeathers and Petals. But there will be more, Beaty Gordon promises.

In addition to distributing to stores all over the country, the Gordons are setting up their own retail outlet. The first will be in Jerusalem's Center 1. They are also negotiating for premises in Bnei Brak, Ra'anana and Petah Tikva.

Response, according to Beaty Gordon, has been extremely positive. People familiar with the American brand-names are delighted that they are now available in Israel. And store managers introduced to the US products for the first time were happy to expand their stocks.



Sailor outfit from Healthtex, imported by Best of U.S. Ltd.

History suits bullfighters like a glove

JULIA HAYLEY
MADRID

TWO apprentices are cutting crimson, semicircular capes from a long swathe of cloth with an enormous pair of scissors.

A bell rings and four burly Mexicans come in to try on an elaborately embroidered procession cloak with a price tag of 275,000 pesetas ($2,000).

They decide not to buy it, but Antonio Lopez, co-owner of one of Madrid's half-dozen specialist bullfight tailors, looks pleased when they leave with a pink and yellow fighting cape instead.

"I've only got half a dozen on the shelf right now," he told a customer earlier. "Unfortunately, the bulls have a habit of destroying them."

Bullfighting fashion is good business, if the long established Casa Fermin is anything to go by. But the skin-tight sequined suits are unlikely to become compulsory party wear.

"We occasionally get ordinary people coming in, but the suits are far too stiff and heavy to catch on widely," he says.

A full "suit of lights" would take one person two months to make, he said.

Some 95 percent of the work is done by hand and layer upon layer of fabric has to be stitched together to provide a firm base for the swirls of gold beading.

"The suit embodies the whole of Spanish culture. It has Arab, Jewish and Christian elements," Lopez says.

The motifs of pineapples, palm leaves and hearts are Jewish in origin, he says.

The sequins are an adaptation of the Arabs' decorative mirrors and tiles, and the finishing cloak is inspired by robes of the Christian images of the Virgin Mary.

Basic designs have changed little since the 17th century, when the suits began to appear in bullrings, although the early models were mostly sober colors with black decoration. Sequins came later.



Bullfighting fashion is a good business, but the skin-tight sequined suits are unlikely to become party wear. (Bourseiller/Sygma)

Photographer Peter Muller, a Swiss-Peruvian who has made bullfight pictures his speciality, says the gold embroidery is inspired partly by the medals bullfighters used to wear, but the religious element is undeniable.

"Bullfighters are all deeply devoted to the Virgin Mary," he says.

EXCEPT FOR the distinction between gold and silver decoration which differentiates the "torero," who kills the bull, from his support team of "banderilleros," there are no strict color rules.

Bulls see movement, not color, and as far as the spectacle is concerned, brightest is best.

The gold sequins can be dazzling if the sunlight catches them, even for those in the cheap seats at the back of the bullring.

"It's not a question of a color being in fashion. A bullfighter chooses a color he believes in. If he's fought well wearing green, he'll wear green," Muller says.

Lopez says bullfighters often model their suits on those of their personal idols.

The suits, now made of cotton and polyester, are more flexible than they used to be. In the past the sleeves were separate, to give more mobility, and tied on with cord which then had to be hidden under an ornate shoulder pad.

The trousers are as tight as ever to set off the torero's strutting, *hip-thrusting movements.*

"The bullfighter, the symbol of masculinity, dresses up in the colors and embroidery of a woman. Anywhere else he'd be taken for a transvestite, but in this context it's totally masculine," Lopez says.

He believes the squeeze, however uncomfortable it looks, is also functional.

"The suit has to be tight," Lopez says. "The compression concentrates the springs of the muscles vertically and makes the body like a rubber ball."

Some say the stiffness and layers of embroidery act as decorative armor. But Lopez, whose workshop also repairs suits that have been gored, is skeptical.

"If you've got half a ton of bull with horns like knives coming at you at 40 km. an hour, the protection value is minimal. You'd do better to pray to God for protection."

(Reuter)

Water scooters are the wave of the future

MOTORING

JOEL GORDIN

EVERY Saturday morning during the swimming season, trendy four-wheel-drive vehicles pull up at the Sidni Ali beach in Herzliya and at Tel Baruch beach in north Tel Aviv.

The cars tow trailers carrying the "in" toy of the country's wealthier yuppies – water scooters or watercraft. (They are more popularly known as "jet skis" although, strictly speaking, this is the trade name of a model produced by Japan's Kawasaki.)

The water-scooter owners, among them Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball stars Doron Jamchee and Yisrael Elimelech, unload their toys from the trailers, drag them to the water's edge and start the motors. They then sit or stand on the vehicle and roar through the waves at adrenaline-pumping speeds of up to 90, even 120, kph.

There's really nothing to driving a water scooter. There are no gears or clutches. You accelerate and decelerate by twisting the hand grip.

A "safety string" leading from the starter is attached to the driver's wrist. If he or she falls into the water, the motor will cut out.

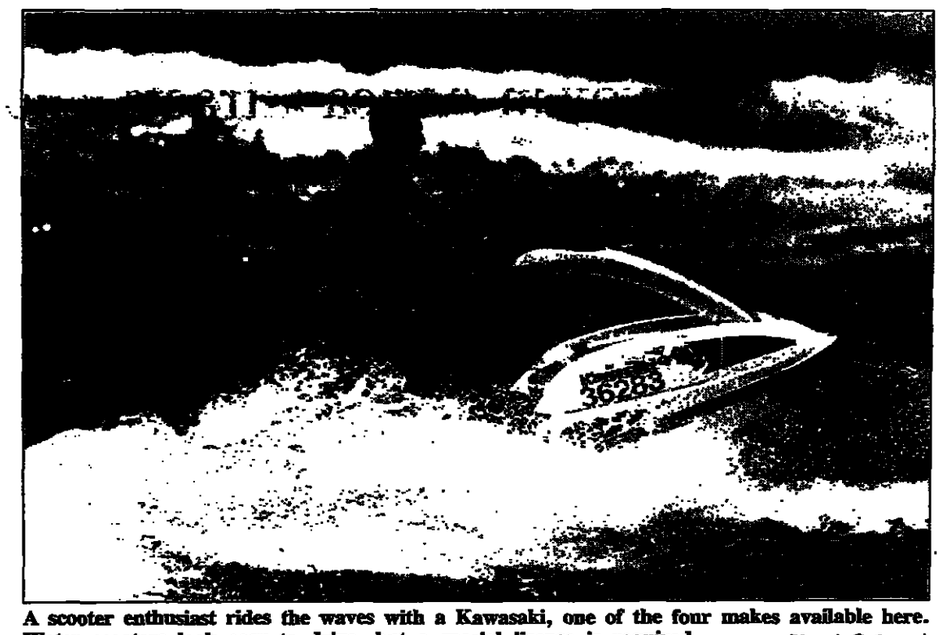
Sounds like good, wet fun? Well, you need a lot of money to join the party.

There are four brands of watercraft available here: Polaris (made in the US), Kawasaki (Japan), Yamaha (Japan) and Seadoo (Canada). Polaris offers two models: a 750cc two-seater for NIS 27,000, and a luxury 750cc three-seater for NIS 37,000. The other makers' prices are on a par.

The purchase price is only for starters, however. Mandatory insurance costs NIS 1,000 a year; comprehensive insurance costs more, and license registration costs NIS 700 a year. Compulsory safety jackets can cost NIS 500, and then there are still the stylish sunglasses, wet suits and other accessories you'll need in order to take part in what is after all a cult sport for beautiful people.

And, of course, you must have a trailer and a 4WD vehicle to get the watercraft to the sea.

All the water scooting in this country is done in the ocean, not on fresh-water lakes as in North America. The saltwater eats into the vehicle, which needs constant, costly maintenance, according to Ziv Buchsweiler, marketing director of Polaris in Israel.



A scooter enthusiast rides the waves with a Kawasaki, one of the four makes available here. Water scooters look easy to drive, but a special license is required. (Hanoch Guthmann)

And don't think you can just hop on the watercraft and go on your merry way. According to law, nobody is allowed to ride a water scooter unless he or she has a license to drive a powerboat, something which can be obtained only after months of study and practice and payment of a fee of up to NIS 1,000.

BUCHSWEILER AND Ami Weizer, the unofficial national water-scooter champion, maintain that the speedboat-license test – which includes subjects like navigation and the international laws of the sea – is far too stiff for those who want to ride watercraft.

Weizer goes further, saying the authorities have "declared war on the sport. The moment you so much as take a jet ski down to the sea you are surrounded by hordes of police officers and inspectors who demand to see everything from your birth certificate to your IDF number. One even asked me once for the jet ski's fire extinguisher."

Spokespersons for the Transport Ministry (which controls the licenses), the Police Ministry (which enforces the rules), and the Interior Ministry (in charge of the beaches) maintain that waterskiing is "dangerous" and requires "strict supervision."

To prove their point they refer to the accident seven years ago on the Kinneret in which Maccabi Haifa goalkeeper Avi Ran was killed when the water scooter he was riding was hit by a speedboat.

"You can't punish a section of the population forever for one tragic mishap," Buchsweiler says.

"If the ministries are so concerned, why don't they set aside clearly defined stretches of water exclusively for the use of watercraft, as in the US and Europe?" He points out that "at least two bathers have been killed in recent years after being struck by water scooters."

Buchsweiler adds that the right to ride watercraft at any particular beach depends on the official on duty at the time. "For lack of clear directives," he says, "the watercraft riders are sneaking into swimming beaches and endangering the bathers."

Most of the water-scooter owners race through the waves on weekends, trying to imitate what they have seen on television. Only unofficial contests have been held because water-scooter riding is not recognized by any sporting authority. (A watercraft contest is not a race. The contestants are judged, like gymnasts, on style.)

Buchsweiler says that, despite the problems, at least 400 watercraft are sold each year. Often two or three people will get together and "time share" a water scooter.

Weizer claims there are about 3,000 riders in the country, "of which only about 2,000 have licenses. Bureaucrats may be driving water-scooter riders underground, but they can't kill the sport, because it's one of the fastest-growing in the Western world, and Israelis won't be left out."

BARGAIN BASEMENT

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Go after the godfathers

As the bombings in Buenos Aires and London have demonstrated all too convincingly, the defenses of the civilized world against terrorism are still woefully inadequate. But it was not only the absence of protection in Buenos Aires that tempted disaster. In failing to investigate the Israeli embassy bombing two years ago, the Argentinian authorities were nothing less than criminally negligent. Their attitude, mocking the brave words spoken at the time about the government's commitment to the tireless pursuit of the guilty, undoubtedly invited the even more murderous bombing at the Jewish center.

Nor is the Argentinian government the only culprit. Other governments have treated terrorist enormities committed against Israel and Jews with indifference bordering on total apathy and negligence. Knowing that the bombings were perpetrated under Iranian auspices with the help of local Islamic agents, and aware of the modus operandi common to both Argentinian bombings and the miraculously aborted attempt on Israel's embassy in Bangkok, most governments in the West did nothing. They neither acted diplomatically against Iran nor alerted their security forces to possible attacks in their own countries.

Unfortunately, the United Kingdom was no better than others. Israeli embassy spokesmen in London have made their disappointment with official British attitude known. That the authorities failed to take special precautions after the Buenos Aires bombing – despite warnings the large presence of Hamas in London made an attack likely – was reprehensible enough. That *despite Israeli requests they did nothing to secure* Jewish centers even after the embassy attack compounded the felony. It was sheer good fortune the bombings did not result in serious casualties.

The response of the media has been perhaps *even more disturbing. When one deranged person,* acting alone, murdered 29 Arabs at the Tomb of the Patriarchs, most of the international media headlined the story for more than a month. The Buenos Aires bombing – an obviously well-planned and organized act of terrorism in which over 100 died – hardly made it to network television news at all. The story appeared on very few front pages of the Western press, and lasted no more than a day. If the media are a reflection of world concern, there was very little of it.

Yet neither expressions of concern nor defensive measures alone, even if effective, can vanquish terrorism. What is needed is firm action against its sponsors. The Western countries today may not be prepared to emulate the Reagan administration's raids on Libya in 1986, but they have proved they can impose sanctions with greater unity and effectiveness than ever before.

Unfortunately, most Western governments are too interested in trade with Iran to participate in any concerted economic action against it. They are even less inclined to punish Syria, the country which has given shelter, political support, and logistic and military aid to the Hizbullah and Hamas – the terrorist organizations implicated in the Buenos Aires and London bombings.

Syria's foreign minister Farouk Shara yesterday said his country opposed violence against Israeli and Jewish targets outside the Middle East. Having nurtured the vipers, Damascus now claims that they were not meant to use their poison *abroad. But if the West wishes to rid the world of* terrorism, it will have to go after its sponsors and godfathers, not just its bombers and gunmen.

Disturbing defectors

WHILE it is too early to say whether the spectacular defections of two prominent North Koreans yesterday is of major *international significance, the first indications* were that many of their statements meshed with a few facts known about their secretive country.

Experts said that Kang Myong Do's claim to be a son-in-law of North Korea's premier appeared at first sight to be genuine, though further intelligence checks would have to be made. Kang's father-in-law, Kang Song San, 63, ranks third in the North's political hierarchy and the defection of his son-in-law would be a major breakthrough for Western intelligence. Significantly, Kang senior failed to appear at a big military ceremony in Pyongyang yesterday, lending weight to the defector's claim. The second defector is almost certainly, as he says, Cho Myong Chol, a lecturer at Kim Il Sung University and a son of former Construction Minister Cho Chol Jun.

Of course the most sensational revelation made by Kang was his assertion that North Korea already has five nuclear weapons and is forging ahead with more and the missile delivery systems to carry them. Experts will in due course ascertain whether even a high-level defector like Kang would have access to such top secret hard facts, or whether he is quoting gossip current in the hierarchy. Paradoxically, in such paranoid states as *North Korea where everything upwards from the* production figures for toilet rolls is a state secret, information snippets become as valuable as currency for high officials. Such snippets are often quite accurate, as Kremlinologists' experience with the former Soviet Union demonstrated. Kang *said the head of operations at the North's nuclear* plant at Yongbyon told him of the weapons last October. Kang's allegations are close to some suspicions in the West of which he could not have been aware, such as a CIA assessment that the North could make up to five warheads by the end of this year.

Warheads don't cause wars, people do, and so the defectors' insights into the Northern leadership are just as valuable. In this case, they seem to fit neatly into some missing gaps in the Western picture. The defections themselves indicate possible trouble for Kim Jong Il, backing some experts' view that his succession is shaky and unpopular. Even the defectors contrasted their respect for the late Kim Il Sung as a strong leader and their lack of it for his flaky son. Their claim that the North has been using on-off talks with the International Atomic Energy Authority and the United States as a time-stalling tactic fits well with the known facts, and also mirrors the tactics of Saddam Hussein in his bid to build nuclear weapons.

The defectors' description of divisions in the military also fit informed speculation in the West. In all, it would be better to hope that the defectors prove to be fakes. Since this seems unlikely, and if *only part of their information is accurate, it seems* North Korea may be a more dangerous and unstable place than even pessimists have been warning.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BAD OMEN

Sir, – On July 12, Yasser Arafat arrived in Gaza. In his entourage were two of the PLO terrorists who carried out the 1974 terror attack in Ma'alot that left 22 children dead.

The terrorists passed the Rafiah border checkpoint when entering the Gaza Strip July 22 and when leaving the Strip a day later. Why weren't they apprehended and arrested in accordance with the provisions in the Cairo Agreement? (Article X of the protocol concerning security arrangements: passages.)

And if that would have been too big a humiliation for Mr. Arafat in whose very presence these thugs entered the strip, why then didn't Prime Minister Rabin demand that the Palestinian Authority arrest and transfer the "suspects" to Israel? (In accordance with the protocol concerning legal matters, article 11-7.b.)

Instead of having them arrested at *Rafiah or extradited to Israel, the* prime minister demanded that the PLO expel the killers of Ma'alot to Egypt. Is the prime minister afraid to embarrass *the PLO leader? Isn't there* a limit? This is a serious precedent which *de facto* granted amnesty to the perpetrators of one of the worst terrorist attacks ever against Israeli civilians. It is a bad omen for the future.

WIM KORTENOEVEN,
Chief Executive,
Israel Committee in the Netherlands
Driebergen, Holland.

ARAB INFRASTRUCTURE

Sir, – Time and again, I read in *The Jerusalem Post* that Yasser Arafat said: "Our infrastructure has been completed destroyed by the occupation. We have to start from zero for everything, etc."

I was under the impression that the Israeli administration had greatly improved the situation, especially regarding hospitals, water, electricity, etc.

If what Arafat persists in proclaiming to the world is true, shame on the administration. If it is a lie, which I hope it is, why have his allegations not been refuted openly by the relevant authorities?

Jerusalem. *REBECCA BEHAGEN*

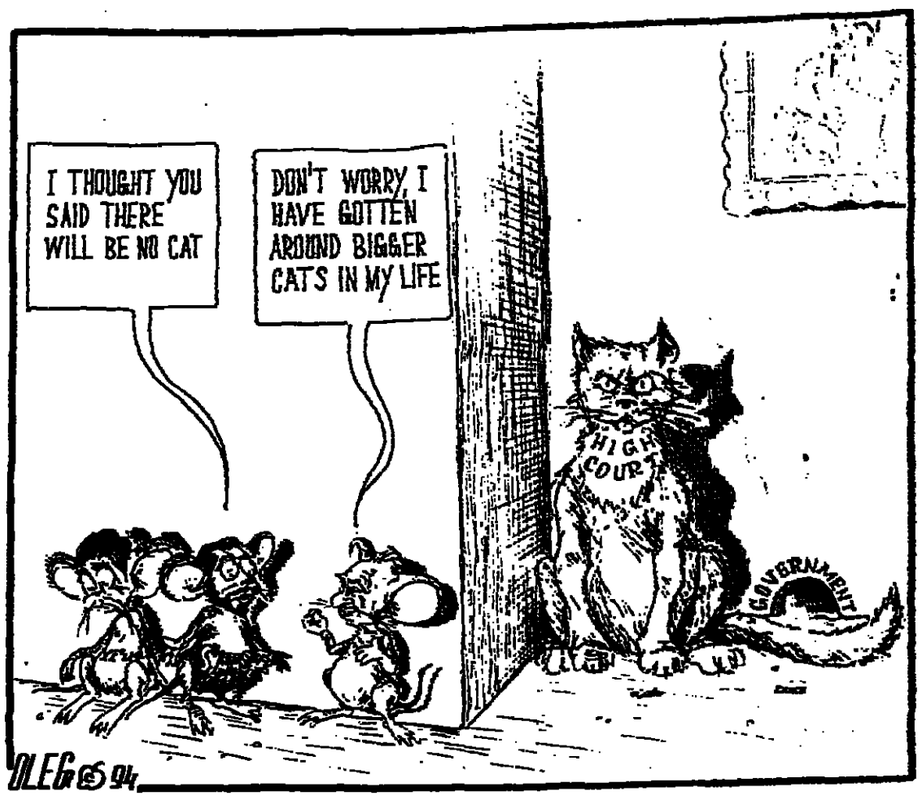
INSULTING REMARKS

Sir, – I am an enthusiastic supporter of the Gaza-Jericho Agreement. I am also an ex-British commando officer whose unit, after being in combat in Europe from D-Day until VE-Day, was on its way to Japan when the atom bomb was dropped. I greatly resent Shimon Peres's comparison of the dropping of the atomic bomb and the Holocaust. I was the first Western soldier in Terezin where I found my own parents. I lived near Hiroshima (as a civilian) for almost half a year in the '50s, and at that time I became even more convinced that the dropping of the bomb saved countless Allied as well as Japanese lives.

President Truman, the first head of *state to recognize the State of Israel,* took full responsibility for dropping the bomb. Though he was a feisty Democrat while in office, he is now admired by the vast majority of politically active Americans for his decisiveness. Mr. Peres's remarks must be as insulting to this group of Americans as they are to me. He should publicly apologize or resign.

MANFRED GANS
Leonia, New Jersey.

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Arafat's uneasy choice

SHLOMO GAZIT

THE wave of Palestinian-Arab Islamic terror against Israeli and Jewish targets around the world has three causes.

One: the basic, ongoing refusal to come to terms with Israel's existence in the heart of the Arab-Moslem Middle East.

Two: the extremists' determination to sabotage the peace process and undermine its chances.

Three: states like Syria, which don't want to be left out of the peace process, use terror to remind Israel and the world that they cannot be ignored. "We have *the power to sabotage the entire* process," is what they are saying.

The second cause of terror is actually a backhanded compliment to the peace process. Stepped-up terror activity – in Israel and the territories, in the security zone in southern Lebanon and against Israeli and Jewish targets abroad – is an indication of how worried the extremist oppositionists are about the possibility that the peace process will succeed.

They see a very bleak prospect: peace treaties and Arab acceptance of Israel putting an *end* to their hope of destroying Israel.

Time and again, Israel has said that terror will not deter us in our pursuit of peace through diplomacy. And there is no doubt that this is Jerusalem's intention.

But there isn't any guarantee that we will be able to meet the challenge. A situation is foreseeable in which terrorist acts of such ferocity are carried out as will turn public opinion – maybe even our leaders – off the negotiations. Faced with heavy human losses and serious damage to property, it might be difficult to stay cool and rational.

Far better for Israel not to be put to the test.

Decades of fighting terrorism have taught us a lot. Here are

> If the Palestinians don't take Israel's place in the fight against terror, everything will be jeopardized

several truths we have learned:

- There is no chance of stopping politically motivated terror as long as the underlying diplomatic problems remain unresolved.
- While there is a need to invest heavily in ways to foil terrorism and protect potential targets, such steps, won't ultimately deter the terrorists.
- The key to (relative) success is close intelligence and operational *cooperation with as many partners* as possible. To combat international terror, we need an effective international agency like Interpol, which coordinates international efforts against "ordinary" crime.
- Egypt and Jordan aren't the problem. Both these countries are diligent in combating terror. On the assumption that Iran will continue to encourage and direct terror for its own reasons, steps to isolate it totally should be taken.

The international community, which has the power and the means, must pressure Damascus and Beirut to withdraw their current support for terror.

- Israel needs to change its negotiating strategy. Bilateral diplomatic negotiations cannot continue alongside terror enjoying direct *or indirect aid from Syria and* Lebanon.
- Israel must make it crystal clear to the Palestinians that their weak condemnation of terrorist acts simply isn't enough.

The Oslo and Cairo agreements have hurt Israel's intelligence infrastructure significantly. The Palestinians can – and must – replace Israel in the struggle against terror.

It won't be easy for Yasser Arafat to throw himself into the struggle against Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and other extremist oppositionist groups.

But if he doesn't, if he allows extremist Palestinian elements to continue their activities virtually unchecked, not only the continuation of the process but also what we have already achieved will be endangered.

The writer, a former head of military intelligence, is a senior research fellow at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies of Tel Aviv University.

POSTSCRIPTS

AN INNER-CITY elementary school teacher in Chicago was suspended after he gave his class math problems involving drug dealing, prostitution and car theft.

Among the test questions was one involving a pimp named Rufus who needed to know how many $65 "tricks" his three "girls" would have to perform to support his $800-per-day crack habit.

The teacher, Charles Routen, was relieved of his duties while an investigation was underway.

Other questions on the examination given to the 11- to 13-year-old children last week involved a drug dealer figuring out how much to dilute his heroin to maximize his profit and an auto thief deciding what models of cars to steal.

SCIENTISTS HAVE found a new mammal species – the Giant Muntjac deer – in an area they call a "lost world" in Vietnam.

The discovery was made by Vietnamese and World Wildlife Fund scientists in northern Vietnam's Vu Quang Nature Reserve where another new mammal species, the Vu Quang ox, was discovered in 1992.

The two Vietnam species are among only seven new mammal species discovered worldwide this century. The fund said that genetic tests confirmed the Giant Muntjac as a new species.

The deer has a red grizzled coat and weighs 40-50 kg. It has antlers which are 20 cm. in length and bowed inward.

Vu Quang was described by a scientist as "a lost world that modern science has never before looked at." It escaped the bombing and military pesticides of the Vietnam War.

Scientists have also found evidence of a new species of fish, two previously unknown bird species and an unknown tortoise with a striking yellow shell.

IT WAS THE best of prose, it was the worst of prose. Actually, it was just the worst of prose.

It was the 1994 Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest, an annual tribute to lousy literature named after the British author who opened his 1830 novel *Paul Clifford* with the immortal line, "It was a dark and stormy night."

This year's winning entries were no better, said San Jose State University English professor Scott Rice.

Worst of all the 9,000 entries was Larry Brill of Austin, Texas. Brill said he had an *unfair advantage* because he writes television news.

His entry:

"As the fading light of a dying day filtered through the window blinds, Roger stood over his victim with a smoking .45, surprised at the serenity that filled him after pumping six slugs into the bloodless tyrant that had mocked him day after day, and then he shuffled out of the office with one last look back at the shattered computer terminal lying there like a silicon armadillo left to rot on the information highway."

"Everybody has the great American novel in them somewhere," Brill said. "Now that I've made my mark with one sentence, my goal is to string three or four together."

The romance category prize went to Gini Jones of Santa Fe, N.M., with an entry that included a hero, "his skin aglow with a tan of catfish-fried perfection ..."

The adventure category winner, Leann Roberts of Iron Station, N.C., had her protagonist Nick Savage mushing his sled through a blinding snowstorm as he thought, "Next time I'm hooking up the dogs."

Rice expects to have ample entries for future contests. "I believe nothing is so powerful as a bad idea whose time has come," he said.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Still waiting for the bell

A bad picture

HARVEY EDINOFF

THE Israeli film industry, once bringing in millions of export dollars annually, is now in deep recession. It is a perfect example of massive governmental inactivity.

The Irish government [illegible] film producers with a tax [illegible] tion against their total [illegible] equal to the amount of [illegible] ment, and allows them to receive 100 percent of their investment back, tax-free, after three years.

Our government, by contrast, offers no incentives of any kind.

The film industry comes under the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which has a film department, the Israeli Film Center, headed by Yoram Gelon. It regularly sets up shop at all important trade fairs such as Cannes and Milan.

At the Cannes festival this May, the Israeli booth drew literally no attention, while lines formed at the Irish booth, for obvious reasons.

Over a year ago, a plan was submitted to Micha Harish, minister of industry and trade, showing that if only a very small governmental guarantee fund were made available, at virtually no risk of financial failure, some tens of millions of dollars' worth of work could immediately be started and

> While the government sits by, millions of dollars' worth of work and hundreds of jobs are lost

employment offered to hundreds of people. The accompanying letter wasn't even acknowledged.

In March, a detailed letter was sent to the Ministry of Science and the Arts, in response to advertisements offering assistance to firms which could absorb unemployed immigrants and returning Israelis. A list of personnel required was included in the letter. Again, no acknowledgment was received.

An active film industry would take in a large number of experienced and semi-experienced operatives.

LAST MAY, a detailed letter was sent to the Ministry of Labor, showing the number of jobs which would immediately be created by a simple and inexpensive governmental action to support the industry. No acknowledgment was received.

More serious than government inactivity is the fact that a simple solution to the problem exists but – incredibly – is not available to the film industry.

Film productions undertaken in Israel for foreign producers are covered by contracts between the Israeli producer and the foreign producer, and invariably contain guarantees of minimum return to the Israeli producer and his investors. The guaranteed contracts for films are the same as, and often better, than those of any other export activity undertaken by Israeli industrialists.

The Foreign Trade Risks Insurance Co., a government-sponsored body, guarantees payment of export contracts in return for a premium. The guarantee is provided after the company checks out the commercial viability of the Israeli manufacturer and his foreign customer. With the guarantee in place, the Israeli manufacturer can raise the financing he needs to produce the goods ordered.

This government-backed scheme is exactly what the Israeli producer needs, and within conditions that he can demonstrably satisfy.

However, the insurance company refuses to consider film applications. It is on record as stating that it "does not sufficiently understand the industry," adding that it has a clear directive to refuse film business. And this from a company which reportedly understood the carpet business well enough to lose some $25m. in one hit. There can be no acceptable excuse for this blatant discriminatory stand.

A healthy film industry is important to Israel. Apart from the benefits it generates for the economy, the more foreign films we make, the more quickly we will be able to cover the cost of equipment and other capital costs and support the continuous employment and development of professional crews.

In turn, these benefits filter down to the production of purely Israeli films, raising the standard of local productions and giving them a competitive possibility of distribution in the US, Europe and other film markets.

Locally made films are a wonderful information medium. While the government continues its massive inactivity, we are losing out in this area too.

The writer is a producer and film controller in the local film industry.

My wife's son is threatening my marriage

DEAR RUTHIE

RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,

I married a divorcée with a 10-year-old son. Since this is my first marriage and I had no children of my own, I didn't know what to expect. Though my stepson and I were on very good terms before the wedding, he is getting to be more of a problem every day. Now I'm having second thoughts about the whole thing.

Floundering Stepfather
Tel Aviv

Dear Floundering,

When you marry someone with a child, it's a package deal, or nothing. If your stepson is being difficult now, it's because he's having a hard time dealing with this new arrangement.

But you are the adult, and the one who must make the initial, and greater, effort. If you are unsure of how to do this, you and your wife must seek family counseling.

The "second thoughts" you're having are probably more from panic than pondering.

Dear Ruthie,

My husband's identical twin brother is still single, and he spends all his free time at our house. I'm beginning to think he may even be attracted to me. I don't want to cause a rift between the brothers, but how can I put some balance into our lives?

Seeing Double
Eilat

Dear Double,

The bond common among identical twins is such that even if your brother-in-law were married, chances are he'd be spending a lot of time around your husband. Marrying someone who has such an intimate connection with someone else needs a bit of adjusting to.

During this adjustment process, you may have given off some signals to your brother-in-law – unintentionally, perhaps – which encouraged his attraction to you. Or perhaps you tried too hard to join their "fraternity," rather than forming a new, exclusive bond with your husband.

What you must do now is believe in your own right to intimacy with your husband, and stand up for it.

Visitors to your home, no matter who they are, won't always be welcome. Period.

Dear Ruthie,

What can I do to occupy my kids (five and eight years old) once summer camp is over, until school starts again?

Panic-Stricken Parent
Jerusalem

Dear PSP,

In addition to the usual zoo-pool-museum round, equip yourself with lots of art supplies and baking ingredients. This way, you can occupy the kids and have a stock of crafts and cookies, all at the same time.

Then, every evening, cross off the calendar days leading toward the end of their vacation and the beginning of yours.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)



This half-mile-long replica of China's Great Wall – in Kissimmee, Florida – consists of 6.5 million bricks laid by Chinese artisans.

Florida park knocks Great Wall down to size

TRAVEL

ESTHER HECHT

AVOIDING flies – and any place swarms of them might call home – is one of the concessions I've had to make to travel with my usual companion. It hasn't been a great sacrifice, but it seems that we will never visit the Far East together.

That's why, when we found ourselves in Kissimmee, Florida, on business, and after we discovered that we were a little old for the thrills at the eminently flyless Disney World, I was delighted that we could get a glimpse of the Orient – without the flies.

Splendid China, a theme park opened last year 1½ kilometers west of Disney World, has it all – temples, fortresses, towns, palaces and the Great Wall – scaled down and spruced up for the most fastidious tourist.

It is not today's China that is on display, though the 1:15-scale models represent extant buildings. What gives the park charm is the sense of a world that is no longer, best represented in the figurines, thousands upon thousands of them, arrayed at each site. They reach just up to your ankle; to see the detail you have to crouch.

In the huge courtyard of the Forbidden City, for example, stand row upon row of brilliantly clad courtiers, guards, warriors and elephants. In a fishing village, housewives shop in the main street. Elsewhere there are feast scenes, weddings, horsemanship competitions and soldiers ranged in battle.

The attention to detail displayed in the figurines typifies the entire park. The model of the Great Wall, about 800 meters long, is made up of 6.5 million tiny bricks. The Second Temple model in Jerusalem, the only local undertaking based on a similar idea, pales in comparison.

Some of the exhibits are closer to their original size, like reproductions of the terracotta statues of soldiers and horses, discovered in 1974. There is also a 12-meter-high version of the eighth-century Leshan Grand Buddha, the original of which is as tall as a 23-storey building.

UNLIKE THE vast country it represents, Splendid China, on 76 landscaped acres, can be seen in a few hours. That's just enough for the dilettante in search of mild thrills, but can be a sensory overload. A plaque at each site locates the original on the map of China and gives a brief description and history. By pressing a button, visitors can hear the same text.

So many periods, so many religious and cultural traditions are included in the more than 60 sites that a book would be a good souvenir for jogging visitors' memories. None was available when we visited the park this spring.

The Chinese government poured $100 million into this theme park, which is a near-duplication of the original Splendid China, near Hong Kong. Of course it will whet the appetites of some visitors, less fastidious than my companion, for the real thing; for the many American families who make the Disney World pilgrimage, it would seem like the perfect place to fill another vacation day.

But Splendid China is definitely an adult entertainment, despite the live demonstrations of martial arts and crowd-pleasing stunts, like the 45-kilo female acrobat who twirls a 150-kilo barrel on the sole of one foot, as if it were a tennis ball. Chinese artisans who demonstrate carving, embroidery, paper-cutting and other crafts unfortunately speak little English.

Chinese and American food is available. We found the Chinese fast food reasonably priced, but only passable.

Admission for adults (over age 13) is $23.55; children (ages five to 12) $13.90; children four and under, free.

With Ma or Pa, children fly and stay free in Eilat

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

CHILDREN under 12 not only stay for free in a hotel, but also fly for free on Arkia, when they accompany their parents on one of the airline's midweek flights from Ben-Gurion Airport to Eilat. The Eilat hotels participating in the campaign are the Neptune, Princess, Orchidea, Holiday Inn, Sonesta, Plaza, Paradise, Caesar, Carlton, Galei Eilat, Adomite, Reef, and Marina Club.

CAR-INN, which provides car storage for airline passengers, is offering a summer special of $66 for the first week of storage and $5 for each additional day, instead of the usual rate of $83 for the first week and $6 a day thereafter. The service includes transport to and from Ben-Gurion Airport.

TWA IS giving an extra bonus to frequent flyers who travel to the US before the end of August. The bonus entitles the passenger to take a companion on a paid flight to the US for an extra $199, or to Paris for an extra $99.

AMSTERDAM'S Victoria Hotel, a century-old hostelry which was recently bought and renovated by a group of Israeli investors, is offering Israelis a bed-and-breakfast rate of 205 Dutch guilders (about $110) for a single room and 270 guilders (about $150) for a double room, through Israeli travel agents. The hotel is just opposite the railway station and guests coming from the airport will also receive free first-class train travel to and from the hotel.

A SERIES of cruises on the rivers of Russia and Ukraine with an American cruise company are being offered through AREI, the local representative of the Odessa-America line. Prices for a two-week cruise, including full board and tours, range from $699 to $1,599, depending on the type of cabin.

LUFTHANSA passengers can now brush up their English while they fly. The airline is offering 32-minute courses on one of its audio channels. One course is for everyday conversation and the other, entitled "Doing Business in English," focuses on advertising, sales, and marketing terminology.

IF YOU would like to meet an aristocratic ghost on your next vacation, Britain's Small Luxury Hotels of the World consortium has several establishments on its list that offer just that opportunity. London's Duke Hotel is said to be haunted by the Duchess of Cleveland, and a French baron reputedly roams the halls of the Ritz. Diarist Lady Mary Wortley walks the top floor of Middlethorpe Hall Hotel in York, while the spirit of one Denzil Christie, who died in a shooting accident, is said to frequent Llangoed Hall in Wales.

A CHOICE of some 4,000 country inns throughout France are listed with Air France's subsidiary, Logis de France, which grades the hostelries according to one, two or three *cheminées* (chimneys). Of these, about 200 are connected with the company's online reservations system, enabling immediate confirmation of reservations. A room for two with breakfast ranges from 300 francs (about $57) in the lowest category to 500 francs (about $94) in the highest class. A room with half board for two ranges in price from 500 francs ($94) to 880 francs ($167).

This heroine goes ape to escape manmade bondage

ANIMAL ACTS by Rhoda Lerman. Henry Holt. $22.50. 263 pp.

BOOKS

RICHARD EDER

IN Rhoda Lerman's beleaguered fable, *Animal Acts*, the worst possible outcome for Beauty would be for her Beast to turn into a prince.

Beasts – in this case a great ape – are infinitely preferable.

Lerman's specialty is wild solutions for women, mostly for demonstrating the wilderness of the problem. She is like nobody else in the United States.

She has some kinship with the English writers Fay Weldon and the late Angela Carter – closer to the lush extravagance of the latter than to the tauter devices of the former, although all three are conceptual tear-aways.

Lerman's last novel, *God's Ear*, was an unbelted transcontinental rampage, in the course of which the only solution for her incandescent and wonderfully insatiable Jewish heroine was to effect the impossible and become a Hassidic rabbi.

In *Animal Acts*, another unbounded woman, less wonderful, bursts the male order by deserting her rich, kind husband and her ruthless, sexy lover to take off with a gorilla.

Rich and kind is repressive; so is ruthless and sexy – when either pair modifies the noun "man."

Linda, Lerman's protagonist, reaches this conclusion in the course of her eventful flight from Long Island, New York, to Florida in a truck specially fitted with a cage, air-conditioning, sandwiches for her, cabbages for him and – as a precaution – Mace, a box of tranquilized Reese's Peanut-Butter Cups and air freshener.

Her philosophy, worked out in hallucinatory bits along the way, goes as follows: "Woman" is the template for the human species; men are hybrids. They are half-woman and half-ape, but not a noble ape like the gorilla.

Their demi-progenitor is the murderous, chattering, neurotic chimpanzee. Women fall for the human (that is, feminine) half, as well as for the sheer sex; only to find themselves torn up by the animal half's chatter and murderousness. Stop messing with an unsoundly bred hybrid, the conclusion goes. Stick with the gorilla, lovable despite his limitations and a dangerousness that isn't mean, at least.

NOW THIS is far-fetched but so, in terms of simply getting from one side of a circus tent to the other, is a high wire strung 13 meters above ground. In fact, it sets up a fine philosophical rigging for Lerman's acrobatics. At the start, for example, she hoists us some way up in the air by dedicating her novel to eight women who own or train gorillas. We are displaced; the ground sways below.

Can she be serious? The difficulty with *Animal Acts* is not the high wire. It is that the feats performed on it are awkward; not up to those of *God's Ear*, for example.

They start off very well; midway they run out of steam, and by the end the extravagant action declines into dutifulness; and the acrobatic philosophy settles into sedentary talk.

Linda's wavering, fitful voice pitches us right into her seasick life with Steven, one of those modern investors who own nothing but only parts of things: discount stores, one-third interest in a yacht, a half-interest in an airplane, and time-shares at half a dozen glamorous sites.

Their life on Long Island is lavish and mild; he is actively indulgent and passively possessive. He frets when she goes for walks at night; he is picky about small items such as her failure to put the can opener away where it belongs.

Each fall she leaves him to go to Ireland, ostensibly to paint.

In fact, she joins her lover, John: handsome, sexually adroit and with a playful British charm. He is also a professional killer attached to naval intelligence. And he shares Steven's domestic obsession.

"Where is my can opener?" he demands; it is the male territorial howl and it freezes a woman's spirit. Linda's life is apportioned between two cages on opposite sides of the Atlantic.

When Steven tells her he has invested in a Coney Island gorilla act, she takes their third-best car and runs away to check it out.

As she watches, the gorilla, named Moses, kills his inexperienced keeper when he makes a sudden wrong move. Linda persuades Moses to go back into his cage – a precarious empathy has set in – and takes him to the animal agency that rented him out.

The proprietor, an Isaac Bashevis Singer character, half-sage, half-crook, persuades her to drive Moses to Florida before the authorities catch him. She will turn him over to an associate and bring back the money. It will give her a week, after all, to think about her marriage.

"Listen, *maidele*," the old man says as he sits drinking milk with Moses. "The gorilla is what he is. Be afraid of your husband."

Up to this point, when Linda's and Moses's wanderings begin, *Animal Acts* keeps us at a high pitch. We are trying to figure out a protagonist whose unexpectedness and kaleidoscopic glitter in telling about herself offer a challenge to our minds, a sense of suspense and considerable delight.

The journey begins well and then wears down.

NOT FOR want of action: Linda drives the truck to an offshore Georgia island resort. She gets into fights with Moses, who hurts her moderately and frightens her to tears. She never feels degraded, though, and they lie together in cuddles with vaguely sexual overtones.

There is sexual pressure, betrayal, a trap and an escape.

All the men are treacherous except for one who is gay. In a series of wild chases, changes and reversals, he helps her and Moses vanish into an uncertain future.

The faster the pace, though, the more Linda bogs down. Lerman has her engage in long, hallucinatory arguments with Steven and John, who are, respectively, coldly hostile and menacingly solicitous. The two men join forces to put her down; at the end they conclude she has simply lost her mind.

Maybe she has; Lerman leaves open the possibility that Linda's adventures are imaginary. That does not really matter; what does matter is that her arguments, soliloquies and anthropomorphic romancing seem interminable.

The more Linda talks, the more indistinct she becomes. After a while, it is not elaboration but the kind of watery swelling that trauma produces in an articulation.

(Los Angeles Times)

TOURISTS! VISITORS! JERUSALEMITES!

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Rabbi Ahron Soloveichik

Logic of the Heart – Logic of the Mind



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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

8 THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1994

United Landfill Industries wins tender for operating Duda'im landfill

LIAT COLLINS

UNITED Landfill Industries has won the tender to operate the Duda'im landfill in the Negev.

The winning bid was announced yesterday by Environment Ministry Director-General Israel Peleg, who is also chairman of the interministerial committee for the Duda'im tender.

The equal partners in the winning bid are Mifalei Tovala, Hevrat Ta'avura, Tamam recycling industries and United Waste Systems, a US company.

Twelve groups vied for the franchise, which lasts for 10 years.

The announcement is a major step forward in the ministry's plans to close some 400 garbage dumps – many of them unauthorized and unsupervised – and transport the garbage instead to five national landfills.

Duda'im is expected to replace Hirya, south of Tel Aviv, as the address for waste from the entire central region after Hirya's closure, scheduled for December 1995.

ULI submitted a detailed proposal for environmentally sound waste disposal at the site, said Uzi Lev-Tsur, the director of one of the group's partners. The company is expected to invest $10 million in the construction and initial operation of the site.

An estimated 1,500 tons of garbage are expected to arrive there daily.

The tipping fee at Duda'im will be NIS 19.94 per ton, which although higher than the fee many municipalities currently pay, is far less than the rumored prices.

Today, the cost ranges from between NIS 5 and NIS 25 per ton, although many municipalities avoid paying a fee by dumping illegally, Peleg said.

"This is the biggest environmental project ever undertaken by the Environment Ministry," he said. "It marks a turning point in the treatment of solid waste from local authorities."

The Interior Ministry would take into account the cost of disposal at the new landfills when offering aid to local authorities, Peleg said.

A bonus factor would be paid to local authorities which stop transporting waste to garbage dumps not recognized by the National Outline Plan for Landfills.

The government will also encourage the construction of regional garbage transit stations, the second stage of the plan to reduce the number of garbage dumps, Peleg said.

The aid will be given on condition that the transit stations are operated by private entrepreneurs.

"The construction of regional transit stations will significantly decrease transport costs and is essential after the closure of small landfills operated by separate local authorities, which will not be able to absorb the cost of each establishing their own transit station," Peleg said. "There is obviously an operational advantage to large transit stations."

'S' indicator rises 0.5% in June

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Bank of Israel's "S", or state of the economy indicator, rose 0.5 percent in June, reflecting the economy's continued expansion, although at a slower pace than during the first quarter of the year.

During the first quarter of the year, the index jumped 3.8% compared to a 0.9% increase in the second quarter, the central bank's research department reported yesterday.

The Bank of Israel also revised upward April's index to 0.2% from 0.1% and adjusted downward May's index to 0.1% from 0.2%.

Since the beginning of the year, the index has increased by 4.67%, compared with 1.75% during the same period last year.

However, the index rose less during the first half of this year than in the previous six months, when it increased by 5.61%.

Retail sales, a good consumption indicator, rose 1.2% in June, following a 2.76% jump in May.

Imports fell 6.4%, after rising 5.3% in May.

The number of jobs in the business sector rose 0.6% in May following a drop of 0.7% in April.

Industrial production fell 1.1% in May, after rising 2.3% in the previous month.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Idan-Elitech wins Postal Authority contract: The Idan-Elitech group and partner Dankner Investments have won the Postal Authority contract for its Shaham communications system. The authority currently holds licenses and provides a range of services in four areas – fax, wide band service, computer networking and voice value added services. The new services will extend current activity, allowing the authority to pursue new markets.

Idan Elitech will operate the system on behalf of the authority for the next 10 years. Projected revenues for the first year are some $3 million.

Lehman Brothers to open office here: Lehman Brothers has announced it will open an office in Tel Aviv, becoming the first major investment bank to establish a permanent presence here. The new office, which is set to open this fall, will provide investment banking services to local corporations, institutions and government agencies.

State firms owe workers NIS 900m. in pension, severance fees: Government corporations have failed to make the appropriate pension and severance fee payments for their workers, as required by the wage agreement signed between the Finance Ministry and the three academic trade unions in April, according to a Finance Ministry report presented recently to the Knesset finance committee.

The sum owed by the corporations – including El Al, Mekorot, Bezek, Israel Aircraft Industries, TAAS-Israel Industries, Israel Shipyards and others – is estimated at NIS 900 million.

Zim's board of directors approves order of five container vessels: Zim's board of directors has authorized the order of five container vessels, with the option of building three additional vessels. The $250 million contract has been given to the HDW shipyards in Germany.

Russian bank plans to establish subsidiary here: Mosstroibank, Moscow Joint-Stock Commercial Construction Bank, plans to establish a subsidiary bank here in partnership with Bank Hapoalim and other local investors, Mosstroibank's president and chairman of the board said yesterday.

Michail Zhuravlev told a press conference that the Russian bank is working with the Bank of Israel to establish a local branch.

Mosstroibank will control 51 percent of the bank, while a group of local investors made up of Bank Hapoalim and other banks and companies will own the remaining shares, he said. Hapoalim, however, denied its involvement and said it had not presented a proposal to the Bank of Israel to establish a new bank in partnership with Mosstroibank.

WORLD BRIEFS

Disney reports record earnings: The Walt Disney Co. yesterday reported record earnings in the latest quarter, buoyed by blockbuster films and video sales. For the fiscal third quarter, the entertainment giant said it earned a record $268 million, or 49 cents a share, compared with profits of $259m., or 48 cents a share, a year ago. Revenues rose to a record $2.4 billion from $1.9b.

The Burbank, California-based company said that it took a charge of $52.8m. during the quarter to cover its role in the restructuring of the financially ailing Euro Disney theme park. *Reuter*

EU approves Air France, Olympic aid, sets conditions: The European Commission yesterday cleared FR 20 billion ($3.67 billion) in state aid for Air France but linked approval to a series of draconian conditions. The Commission also approved a 545 billion drachma ($2.28b.) rescue plan for Greece's state-owned Olympic Airways.

Air France was ordered to sell off its stake in Meridien hotels, to separate operations from domestic airline Air Inter and to pay back a FR 1.5b. ($278m.) loan obtained under preferential rates. The Commission also approved conditions with Olympic Airways' aid package, comprising loan guarantees, debt write-offs and conversions, and a capital injection between 1995 and 1997. *Reuter*

Ford doubles profits: Ford Motor Co. said yesterday its profits more than doubled in the second quarter, marking the sixth straight quarter of higher earnings for the nation's second largest automaker. Ford said it earned a record profit of $1.71 billion in the second quarter, up from $775 million in the same period last year. *Reuter*

US durables orders up strongly: Orders for expensive manufactured goods posted surprisingly strong gains in June, the Commerce Department said yesterday, paced by stronger demand for new cars and aircraft. The 1.3 percent increase in orders to a seasonally adjusted $151.01 billion was more than double Wall Street economists' expectations for a 0.6% increase. *Reuter*

Coffee prices surge again: Coffee prices surged after Brazil forecast frost damage to its 1995/96 coffee crop at 11 million 60-kilogram bags, above traders' estimates. Coffee for September delivery opened $177 higher in London at $3,650 per tonne. *Reuter*

BMW posts 14% rise in profits: German luxury car and motorcycle maker BMW said its first-half net profit leapt 14 percent to DM 290 million ($182 million) and full-year production and sales would be higher than in recession-hit 1993. *Reuter*

China blasts US for blocking entry to GATT: China accused the US of blocking its entry to the GATT world trade body and warned that if it could not enter, it would not honor any of the commitments made during eight years of difficult negotiations. *Reuter*

Allianz AG Holding reports 70% increase in profits: Allianz AG Holding, Europe's largest insurance group, reported a rise of nearly 70 percent in 1993 net profit to DM1.46 billion ($916.3 million) and said it was expecting another improvement this year. *Reuter*

Saab recalling 75,000 cars: Swedish car maker Saab said it was recalling up to 75,000 Saab 9000 cars around the world because of faults with brake lights and engine-cooling units. *Reuter*

BAT Industries reports record earnings: BAT Industries Plc reported record first-half pre-tax profits of £948 million, boosted by recovery in the US cigarette market after a savage price war and an upturn in British insurance. *Reuter*

BT posts higher than expected profits: British Telecommunications Plc announced better than expected first-quarter profits of £781 million as it fought back against growing competition. *Reuter*

AT&T joins deal to invest in Black Sea 'optical highway': AT&T Corp said it joined about 30 international telecommunications carriers in signing an agreement to invest in the first "optical highway" serving the Black Sea. *Reuter*

MKs decide to pay state firm directors for attending board meetings

EVELYN GORDON

DIRECTORS of government companies will from now on be paid for attending a certain number of board meetings a year, the Knesset finance committee decided yesterday.

The committee's decision on paying board members means that directors of government firms will now get NIS 375-NIS 750 per meeting, depending on the size and importance of the company. Chairmen of the board will receive NIS 425-NIS 900 per meeting.

With one exception, all the figures are NIS 25-NIS 100 more than the Treasury originally proposed, since committee members had complained that if the goal was to enable government firms to compete for directors with public companies, the original figures were too low.

However, the payment scale is still considerably lower than that of most publicly traded companies.

The Treasury also restricted the number of meetings for which a director can be paid each year. This limit ranges from 12 to 60, again depending on the size and importance of the company.

Originally, the Treasury had set monthly limits, but the committee objected, saying a yearly limit would give a company more the flexibility to schedule more meetings during periods of heavy activity.

However, the yearly limits are lower than the original monthly limits would have been, thereby compensating for the higher payments.

Although MKs had raised numerous other objections – some wanted even higher payments; some wanted no limit on the number of meetings – committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) said it was necessary to do something quickly, and the revised proposal was a workable compromise.

"If nobody's happy, that's a good sign," he said.

MK Dan Tichon (Likud), in contrast, said the current proposal failed to solve the problem, and asked for a revote in the name of his party. However, neither he nor any other Likud MKs bothered to show up for the revote.



Gedalya Gal: Committee chairman happy with the 'workable compromise.' (Isaac Harari)

In other news, the committee also approved NIS 5.77 million to build a helicopter landing pad in Arad. This decision had been criticized by State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, since Arad was only number nine on the government's own list of 15 priority sites.

However, coalition MKs were convinced by Industry Minister Micha Harish's explanation that without the pad, Motorola would not go through with its plans to build a plant in the area, which would employ hundreds of people.

Court rejects Tsubari's appeal

RAINE MARCUS

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday rejected an appeal by Eylon Tsubari against his remand until trial on charges of suborning witnesses and disrupting investigations.

Tsubari, former deputy director of Bank Hapoalim's Gmulot provident fund, appealed two weeks ago against his remand.

Defense lawyers Dan Qual and Penina Devorin argued that a state witness, Nirel Ben-Yosef, acted as "the suborned who was suborned to suborn" by the Securities Authority.

Tsubari was accused of suborning Ben-Yosef while under house arrest on stock manipulation charges.

Phone calls made by Tsubari and his wife Manya persuading Ben-Yosef to lie to investigators were recorded by investigators, and Tsubari was arrested.

Judge Arye Even-Ari said Tsubari not only suborned witnesses but was also involved in disrupting legal proceedings and destroying evidence.

"The fact that Tsubari violated his release conditions shows he did not obey nor pay attention to court orders," he said.

Tsubari planned his offenses in advance and had no motivation to stop, Even-Ari said.

Tsubari has not yet been indicted on stock manipulation charges but will remain in custody until his trial on both set of charges.

Court: Database listing bad check writers is illegal

EVELYN GORDON

A DATABASE listing anyone who has ever written a bad check is an unwarranted and illegal invasion of privacy, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

The court was responding to an appeal by the state against the Jerusalem District Court's decision that it had to license the database in question.

The state argued that the database was illegal under the privacy protection law, which forbids the use of information in a way the giver did not intend it to be used.

When someone writes a check, thereby giving the recipient his name, address, phone number, etc., he does not intend this information to be entered into a database of bad check writers, the state said.

Moshe Ventura and Uzi Argaman, the database organizers, argued that the check writer gives up his right to privacy by choosing to write a check, which includes all kinds of personal information.

Furthermore, by law, invasion of privacy is justified if it serves a public interest.

This database would serve many public interests, they said, since it would reduce the substantial losses to businesses which accept checks, and also save much time currently wasted by the police, the execution offices and the courts in helping businesses recover money lost through bad checks.

However, Justices Gavriel Bach, Ya'akov Kedmi and Tova Strasberg-Cohen said that someone who writes a check has only agreed to reveal personal information to the recipient – not to the public at large.

Furthermore, they ruled, the public benefit of such a database does not outweigh its potential damage to the individual. Numerous checks are bounced due to technical problems or bank errors, and certainly do not merit blacklisting the writer, they said.

Other checks are stopped because of a dispute between the writer and the recipient, and again, do not merit blacklisting. Furthermore, the blacklist is likely to be picked up by other databases in other countries, and a person will usually be unable to fight against his inclusion because in most cases, he won't know about it.

The justices noted that by law, the Bank of Israel can publish information about bad check writers, but only if they have written at least 10 bad checks in the course of a year – and even then, only their bank account number can be publicized.

The planned database, in contrast, would also include names, addresses, phone numbers and identity numbers.

This, the justices said, gives some idea of the balance the legislature thinks should exist between the right to privacy and the need to prevent bad checks from being accepted.

While it is possible that a database could be developed which would strike a similarly acceptable balance, the database in question does not, they ruled.

Vegetable growers get NIS 250m. in compensation

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

VEGETABLE growers will be compensated NIS 250 million for damages resulting from the economic agreement with the Palestinians, according to a deal signed yesterday between the Agriculture and Finance ministries and the growers organization.

The economic agreement signed with the PLO will allow free entry of most agricultural products from the territories into the country.

The ministries and growers agreed to compensate tomato, cucumbers, eggplant, zucchini and sweet potato growers NIS 120m. over a four-year period, starting at the end of August.

The compensation will be based on growers' output during the last few years and will also be given to farmers who decide to stop growing vegetables.

The government and growers also decided to compensate sweet corn and tomato growers up to NIS 5m. over the next few years.

According to the agreement, growth quotas on carrots and onions will be immediately canceled, while quotas on potatoes will gradually be eliminated.

Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur decided to compensate farmers hurt by the cancellation of quotas with NIS 1,700 per dunam.

Public borrowing of unlinked shekel loans unchanged

JOSE ROSENFELD

PUBLIC borrowing of unlinked shekel loans was virtually unchanged last month following a one percentage point rise in interest rates in May, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday.

Since the last quarter of 1993, the central bank has been pointing at the rapid growth in available credit as an indicator of inflationary tendencies and a sign that the public considered credit to be cheap.

Apparently, after six increases in interest rates that began in November, the public is starting to feel the pinch of higher interest rates and moderating its borrowing.

A central bank spokesman said money supply indicators are mixed, with some pointing to continued growth, while others showing a slight drop.

Commercial banks' interest rates rose an average of half a percentage point in June, reflecting the Bank of Israel's rate hike by the same amount at the end of May.

The interest commercial banks charged on overdrafts increased to an average annual rate of 18.42 percent from 17.84% in May.

Average interest on credit to the public rose to 16.19% from 15.63%.

Fixed-term interest rates on credit increased to 14.55% from 13.98%.

Interest on deposits rose to 9.42% from 8.9% in May. Short-term deposits went up to 11.09% from 10.51%. Similarly, fixed-term deposits rose to 10.49% from 9.88%.

The banks' profit margin from transactions with the public inched up to 6.77% from 6.73%. Similarly, their financial margin for all transactions increased marginally to 4.99% from 4.91%.

The Bank of Israel yesterday also published the average rate banks charge for unlinked credit, as required by the law, which limits the maximum interest non-banking institutions can charge.

Based on May's average rate of 16.4%, the "grey market" can charge up to 36.9% interest

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (27.7.94)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.000	4.500	5.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.625	3.875	4.625
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.000	4.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.375	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.625	0.875

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (27.7.94)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3550	3.4060	—	—	3.3798
U.S. dollar	3.0303	3.0730	2.98	3.12	3.0510
German mark	1.9185	1.9456	1.89	1.98	1.9300
Pound sterling	4.6348	4.7002	4.55	4.76	4.6572
French franc	0.5617	0.5696	0.54	0.58	0.5648
Japanese yen (100)	3.0862	3.1287	3.03	3.18	3.1079
Dutch florin	1.7104	1.7345	1.68	1.76	1.7192
Swiss franc	2.2831	2.2950	2.23	2.33	2.2795
Swedish krone	0.3819	0.3874	0.39	0.40	0.3837
Norwegian krone	0.4400	0.4462	0.43	0.45	0.4426
Danish krone	0.4881	0.4950	0.48	0.50	0.4915
Finnish mark	0.5833	0.5916	0.57	0.60	0.5867
Canadian dollar	2.1925	2.2234	2.18	2.28	2.2070
Australian dollar	2.2451	2.2769	2.20	2.32	2.2570
S. African rand	0.8241	0.8357	0.53	0.76	0.8303
Belgian franc (10)	0.9324	0.9455	0.92	0.96	0.9382
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7258	2.7640	2.68	2.81	2.7436
Italian lira (1000)	1.9134	1.9403	1.87	1.98	1.9231
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.26	4.55	4.2957
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.87	0.92	0.9018
ECU	3.8536	3.7153	—	—	3.8373
Irish punt	4.5579	4.6322	4.48	4.74	4.6015
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3312	2.3640	2.27	2.42	2.3430

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE

Amendment to the Israel-Germany social security treaty
Dividends for East European deportees

The Institute notifies the public that the agreement amending the treaty to realize the dividend rights of East European departees who belonged to the German culture and language group, has not yet been signed.

After the signing of this agreement, the National Insurance Institute will make a public announcement regarding the agreement and the procedure for making a claim through the offices of the National Insurance Institute

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	...NIS 3.0510	-0.26%
Sterling	.....NIS 4.6572	-0.13%
Mark	.....NIS 1.9300	+0.58%

INTL STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3718.17	-18.61
DJ Transport	1580.36	+18.17
DJ Utils	192.18	-0.53
DJ Comp	1267.31	-8.41
NYSE Indust	307.72	-2.84
NYSE Transport	245.39	-2.22
NYSE Comp	249.57	-2.69
S&P 100	418.41	-1.5
S&P Spot Index	462.09	-1.37
AMEX Comp	433.77	-0.79

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+713	800	1303
Volume up (in 1000's)			76848
Volume down (in 1000's)			124782

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3082.3	-34.9
Tokyo Nikkei average	20137.2	-208.1
Singapore 55-share index	558.23	0
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	9402.18	+207.82

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Am Isr Pap	43.25	0
Ampal A	9 3/75	-0.125
Aryt	2.25	-0.125
Blech	2.96875	-0.09375
Cannel Cont	6.5	0
Elscint Chem-Frutarom	2.875	+0.0625
Elscint	2.25	-0.125
Elr Levut	7.875	+0
Elr Levut A	8.625	+0
Lasar Labs C	6.125	-0.125
PEC	29.25	+0.625
Tadiran	16.625	-0.625
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	5.375	+0.125
4D	3.5	+0
Ampal 6.5	31	+0
BVR Tech	6.125	+0.5
Converge Tech.	9 3/75	+0.375
Data Sys	6.75	-0.25
ECI Tel	17.5	-0.375
Edusoft	4	0
Edu-Soft	2.625	0
Electric Fuel	7.25	+0
EPPI	21	-0.125
Elbit	20.25	-0.75
Elron	9.875	+0.0625
Esrad Robotec	0.8125	-0.0625
M. Systems	4	+0
Gilat	10	+0.25
ISG	2.375	+0
Geotek	9.875	+0.3125
Health Tech	2.25	+0.125
Ibis	0.6875	+0.0625
IIS	3	+0.25
Inogo	13.5	+0
Interpharm	4	
First Isr Fund	13 875	-0.125
Israel	0.53125	-0.03125
Lannet	7.75	+0
Lanoptics	6.75	0
Magal	4 625	-0.25
Medis-Al	4.625	+0.375
Magic	7.25	-0.5
Orbotech	7.75	+0
Delsys Tech	3.125	+0.25
Rada	3.125	0
Robomatics	2 8125	+0.1125
Saperia	4	-0.25
Scitex	18.75	+0.625
Silicon	0.625	0
T.A.T. Technol	3.25	-0.125
Teva Vir	5.75	+0.625
Teledata	9.625	-0.125
Telegraph	3.375	+0
Teva	27.625	-2.1875
TVG	1.625	0

(All listings are closing quotes)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 28-JUL-94)

INTL MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound	spot	1.5328	+0.0079
	Sep future (CME)	1.5307	+0.007
D-mark	spot	1.5735	-0.0102
	Sep future (CME)	0.6344	+0.0043
S-franc	spot	1.334	-0.011
	Sep future (CME)	0.7497	+0.0057
Yen	spot	98.55	+0.35
	Sep future (CME)	0.010182	-4.5e-005
CanDlr	spot	1.3789	-0.0001
	Sep future (CME)	0.7253	-0.0005
AusDlr	spot	0.7365	-0.0032
	Sep future (CME)	0.739	-0.0037
F-franc	spot	5.3765	-0.0575
It Lire	spot	1588.5	-0.1
Mg	spot	1.7655	-0.0112
AuStrg	spot	111	-0.08
Reed	spot	3.6875	-0.016
ECU	spot	1.2145	-0.007
Bonds	future	102.344	-0.53125
S and P	future	452.8	-1.15

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	4.8125	0
Dollar	6 months	5.25	0
Dollar	12 months	5.75	0
Sterling	3 months	5 3/75	+0.0625
Sterling	6 months	5 5/25	+0.0625
Sterling	12 months	6 3125	+0.0625
S-franc	3 months	4 43/75	+0.0625
S-franc	6 months	4.5	+0.0625
S-franc	12 months	4 625	0
D-mark	3 months	3 9/25	+0.0625
D-mark	6 months	3 9/25	0
D-mark	12 months	3 15/75	0
Yen	3 months	2 25	0
Yen	6 months	2 25	0
Yen	12 months	2.5	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 28-JUL-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
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INTL COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (CEC)	1458	+44
Coffee (Sep) (CEC)	210.85	+2.85
Sugar #11 (Oct) (CEC)	11.72	+0
Wheat (Sep) (CBOT)	332	+1.25
Soybeans (Aug)(CBOT)	585	+1.25
Orange Juice (Sep)(CEC)	84.75	+0.25
Crude oil light (Sep)(CEC)	18.48	+0.25

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (LCE)	1062	+36
Coffee (Sep) (LCE)	2038	+47
Brent Crude oil (Sep)(IPE)	1769	+25

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold	spot	387.75	+1.5
Silver	spot	5.36	+0.03

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Aug)	387.7	+0.6
Silver (Sep)	5.372	+0.047
Palladium (Sep)	163.95	+0
High-grade copper (Sep)	1.1115	-0.002

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	387	+1.15
Gold PM fix	386.85	+2.35
Silver fix	532.5	+0.2
Platinum PM fix	427	+5.25

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date*

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 28-JUL-94)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FirstnWt2	3635	
Generalt	9227	1.3
IndDevOD		
IndDvPrfD		
LaurinWt1		
MizrtC	189.50	
OtnN	115387	
Trade	653	-2.4
TradeC	179.50	-2.4

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	336379	0.2
Canrea	803	0.2
CanrCt2	314	0.6
DevnMB	20473	
FirstMB	37881	1.9
IndDvpMB	67338	2.7
J ernC	728.00	0.8
Jerusbnk	330	0.9
LaurnMBR	103839	
Mishkan	31210	1.8
MishkanC	189.00	
Mizrhr	8216	
TefahotR	196755	

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shtron	8095	

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
Ianedtwt	2022	3.5
Ararat	1786	
Ayalon	679	-0.7
AyalonC	385	3.2
Eden	329	
EdanC1	198.00	-1.0
Hacarl	1280	0.2
Hadar5	1239	
HamshmrC	2027	
Hamshmrt	1484	
Hamshmr5	1366	
Menoranl	1179	
Menoranl5	1129	-0.5
Phoenix1	4411	
Phoenix5	4658	0.5
Shirr	835	2.3
Zion5	7616	

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
hashmira	695	-0.3
Ids'ezou	1057	
Baran	1622	
BaranWt2	176.00	
BndWrtC1	128.00	0.8
BndWrtC2	124.50	-1.2
BondWrt1 L	3397	
Citrus0.1	80510	0.5
Clal Comp	14498	
ClalCmpC	155.50	
ClalTrW5	176.00	
CorBeech	1847	
CoOp	1128	1.3
Crystal	3311	-1.8
DanHotl	2480	0.8
Electric Fuel	7.25	+0
EPPI	21	-0.125
Elbit	20.25	-0.75
Elron	9.8875	+0.0625
Esrad Robotec	0.8125	-0.0625
M. Systems	4	+0
Gilat	10	+0.25
ISG	2.375	+0
Geotek	9.8875	+0.3125
Health Tech	2.25	+0.125
Ibis	0.6875	+0.0625
IIS	3	+0.25
Inogo	13.5	+0
Interpharm	4	
First Isr Fund	13 875	-0.125
Israel	0.53125	-0.03125
Lannet	7.75	+0
Lanoptics	6.75	0
Magal	4 625	-0.25
Medis-Al	4.625	+0.375
Magic	7.25	-0.5
Orbotech	7.75	+0
Delsys Tech	3.125	+0.25
Rada	3.125	0
Robomatics	2 8125	+0.1125
Saperia	4	-0.25
Scitex	18.75	+0.625
Silicon	0.625	0
T.A.T. Technol	3.25	-0.125
Teva Vir	5.75	+0.625
Teledata	9.625	-0.125
Telegraph	3.375	+0
Tevs	27.625	-2.1875
TVG	1.625	0

(All listings are closing quotes)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 28-JUL-94)

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	336379	0.2
Canrea	803	0.2
Carm

Tottenham signs Romanian World Cup star Dumitrescu

LONDON (Reuter) – Troubled English side Tottenham signed Romanian World Cup star Ilie Dumitrescu in a deal worth £2.6 million yesterday.

The transfer was subject to a medical examination to be completed tomorrow, when the Steaua Bucharest midfielder is due to fly into London, and to the Romanian getting a work permit, the Premier League club said.

The 25-year-old Dumitrescu was a key member of the Romanian side which reached the World Cup quarterfinals in the US. He scored twice in the 3-2 second-round win over Argentina.

Tottenham boss Ossie Ardiles, desperate to strengthen a squad which will start the new season with a six-point deficit after being found guilty of financial irregularities by the FA, was also reported to be negotiating to sign Brazilian World Cup defender Marcio Santos.

Santos has been valued at £2m by his French club Bordeaux since Brazil's World Cup win and has indicated that he would prefer a move to Italy.

In other developments yesterday, Brazil will take part in a six-nation soccer tournament in England next year.

The event, which will also feature the hosts and Japan, will act as a dress rehearsal for organizers of the 1996 European championship in England.

"We want to use as many of the Euro '96 grounds as possible," said European championship director Glen Kirton. He said that the full entry list had yet to be finalized.

"Invitations have gone out to a number of countries. Brazil and Japan have accepted and it would also be attractive if we had another country from the British Isles and top nations from Europe and Africa," said Kirton.

The 10-day tournament, to be staged in May and June, will provide valuable competitive action for England manager Terry Venables, who took over this year after the side failed to qualify for the World Cup.

Atar moves to Hapoel Haifa

ORI LEWIS

REUVEN Atar of Maccabi Haifa fame and fortune last season, has moved.

The Israel midfielder will go to Hapoel Haifa after Hapoel chairman Robbie Shapira agreed to pay $550,000 to Maccabi.

The fee was agreed upon after a previous price of $750,000, which had been set by an independent arbitrator, was turned down by Shapira, who said he could not afford to pay so much money.

Atar's move is nevertheless a record for an Israeli transfer deal.

The Haifa native had stipulated his willingness to switch clubs, but did not want to move out of the city. With Hapoel managing to hold on to its place in the National League by the skin of its teeth after a relegation playoff with Shimshon Tel Aviv last season, Atar's presence will be most welcome.

Atar joins a new-look Hapoel side that includes two of his former teammates at Maccabi: Tal Banin, who has returned to Israel after a season at Cannes; and Eitan Aharoni, the former Maccabi captain who sat on the bench for much of last season.

In other news, Oleg Kuznetsov, the Russian sweeper has made the move from Glasgow Rangers to Maccabi Haifa after passing a fitness test in Tel Aviv on Tuesday.

Itzik Zohar's move to Belgium's Anderlecht has been finalized. The Israeli played in a friendly with his new club yesterday.

Warwicks, Worcs still on course for NatWest Trophy

LONDON (Reuter) – Warwickshire and Worcestershire remained on course yesterday for their second showdown of the summer in a Lord's cricket final.

They were kept apart in the NatWest Trophy semifinal draw as Warwickshire landed a home tie against Kent while their near neighbors were given a trip to Surrey, who beat Glamorgan by five wickets at Swansea yesterday.

Warwickshire inflicted a humiliating six-wicket defeat on Worcestershire in the Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's earlier this month.

Kent will have plenty of incentive when they travel to Edgbaston on August 9 for a tilt at the favorites.

Warwickshire beat Kent in a Benson and Hedges quarter-final bowlout earlier this season after a washout at Edgbaston.

Kent was furious and complained formally that the ground had not been properly covered.

On Tuesday, Warwickshire stayed on course for an unequalled clean sweep of all four domestic cricket competitions with a crushing eight-wicket win over Somerset in the NatWest quarter-finals.

With the Benson and Hedges Cup already won and a six-point lead in the third one-day competition, the Sunday league, plus being in close contention for the county championship, Warwickshire is now quoted at only 3-1 to win all four trophies.

While West Indian Brian Lara gave Warwickshire their early-season impetus, he again proved no more than a bit-part performer on Tuesday as has been the case in most matches in the past few weeks.

His contribution to Warwickshire's 23rd win in 28 matches was one catch and nine runs. The real damage was done by seamer Gladstone Small, who ripped out both Somerset openers, and spinner Neil Smith, who picked up four wickets as Somerset was dismissed for just 124.

It was an easy target for Warwickshire, especially after an opening stand of 93 between Dominic Ostler and Andy Moles and they won with nearly 36 overs to spare.

Kent and Worcestershire also won through to the semifinals in equally low-scoring matches.

West Indian fast bowler Curtly Ambrose took three for 16 for Northamptonshire but it was not enough to stop Worcestershire scoring the required 129 runs for victory and winning by two wickets.

Kent faced exactly the same winning target in their match after dismissing Derbyshire for 128 with seamer Mark Ealham taking four wickets for 10 runs. Kent comfortably reached the mark with five wickets and almost 13 overs in hand.

Williams' 38th HR wins for Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) – Matt Williams hit his major league-leading 38th homer and Todd Benzinger drove in three runs Tuesday, giving the San Francisco Giants a 12-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Giants moved within 1½ games of the first-place Dodgers in the NL West and sent a crowd of 55,771 home happy after scoring seven runs in the seventh. Los Angeles has dropped 12 of its last 18 games.

Williams hit his second homer in as many games in the fifth inning after Barry Bonds doubled. Williams drove a 3-1 pitch from Orel Hershiser (5-5) into the left field bleachers to give San Francisco a 5-0 lead.

Giants starter William VanLandingham (6-1) left with two on and two out in the seventh. Mike Piazza hit the first pitch from reliever Rich Monteleone for his 21st homer to make it 5-3. Piazza added an RBI double in the Dodgers' two-run ninth.

Expos 5, Braves 3

Visiting Montreal took advantage of Atlanta's fumbling fielders for four unearned runs, beating Greg Maddux for their eighth straight win.

The Expos opened a 3½-game lead over the Braves in the NL East, turning errors by Maddux and shortstop Jeff Blauser into a three-run seventh inning for a 5-2 lead.

The Braves held a players-only meeting before the game, but still lost for the seventh time in 10 games. They've lost two straight days to Montreal and seven of 10 to the Expos this season.

Astros 6, Reds 5

Jeff Bagwell hit his 33rd homer and became the first major leaguer to reach 100 RBIs, as Houston bounced back for a road win.

Luis Gonzalez doubled home the tie-breaking run in the seventh inning as the Astros overcame a blown five-run lead. Houston's fifth victory in seven games moved them one game behind Cincinnati in the NL Central.

Phillies 10, Marlins 8 (12)

Ricky Jordan hit a tie-breaking single in the 12th inning as Philadelphia blew a six-run lead but still managed to win on the road.

Jim Eisenreich led off the 12th with a single and took second when right fielder Gary Sheffield overran the ball for an error. Jordan then singled off Robb Nen (4-5) and later scored on an infield single by Kim Batiste, who had four hits and three RBIs.

Ben Rivera (3-3) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory.

Phillies first baseman John Kruk, who underwent surgery earlier this year for testicular cancer, found two more lumps, one on his lower abdomen and one on his rib, and was rushed back to Philadelphia.

Phillies center fielder Lenny Dykstra, shaken up when he was thrown out at the plate by Sheffield in the seventh inning, left the game and underwent chest X-rays which were negative. His status is day-to-day.

Rockies 6, Padres 5

Mark Thompson won his major-league debut and visiting Colorado moved within one game of first place in the NL West.

Los Angeles leads the division by one game over Colorado and 1½ games over San Francisco.

Cubs 8, Pirates 4

Mark Grace and Rick Wilkins greeted host Pittsburgh relievers with eighth-inning homers and the Chicago Cubs overcame Anthony Young's injury-shortened start.

Young, activated off the disabled list just before gametime, lasted four innings before leaving with fatigue in his right elbow and forearm. Young had been on the disabled list since July 10 because of a strained elbow.

Jose Bautista (4-4) got the victory on his 30th birthday despite allowing two runs in the only inning he worked. Mark Dewey (2-1) was the loser.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Red Sox 10, Yankees 7

Tim Naehring and Mo Vaughn hit two-run home runs in the sixth inning as visiting Boston ended the Yankees' five-game winning streak.

Naehring's seventh homer of the year came off Jimmy Key (15-3) and capped a Red Sox comeback that began after the Yankees scored five runs in the first inning off Chris Nabholz (3-3).

Key, who has lost two of his last five decisions, allowed 11 hits on six runs in 5⅓ innings, walking three and striking out four.

Nabholz allowed seven hits and five runs, walked four and struck out six in five innings but held the Yankees to four hits after the first inning.

Royals 3, White Sox 2

Wally Joyner had a pair of RBI singles as host Kansas City won its fourth straight.

The Royals' winning streak is their longest since a five-game string in mid-April. Kansas City moved six games over .500 for the first time this season.

Tom Gordon (10-6) improved to 7-2 lifetime against the White Sox, allowing two runs and six hits in 7⅓ innings. He walked five and struck out four.

Jeff Montgomery pitched the ninth for his 21st save.

Tigers 9, Mariners 1

Travis Fryman broke an 0-for-26 slump with two doubles, two triples, and four RBIs to lead Detroit to a home win.

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
San Francisco 12, Los Angeles 5
Montreal 5, Atlanta 3
Houston 6, Cincinnati 5
Philadelphia 10, Florida 8 (12)
Colorado 6, San Diego 5
New York 10, St. Louis 9 (11)

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Baltimore 10, Cleveland 4 (1st)
Cleveland 9, Baltimore 2 (2nd)
Detroit 9, Seattle 1
Milwaukee 7, Toronto 5
Boston 10, New York 7
Kansas City 3, Chicago 2
Texas 8, Minnesota 7
Oakland 6, California 0

Due to technical difficulties, the Major League standings were unavailable.



CUT DOWN – Pirates catcher Don Slaught shows the umpire the ball after tagging out Cubs' Rick Wilkins who tried to score from second on a single. Wilkins was thrown out by Andy Van Slyke. (AP)

Fans plan pre-emptive strike

CLEVELAND (AP) – Two groups claiming to represent the interests of baseball fans are merging their campaigns in an effort to get fans to go on a one-day strike before the players do.

"What I'd would like to see is an end to strikes in major league baseball. These guys (owners and players) are entitled to their money, but they are not entitled to stiff the fans," said Frank Sullivan, a season ticket holder to Cleveland Indians games and organizer of a group called "Fans First."

Fans with season tickets to August 13 games are being urged to stay home. Fans with single-game tickets are being urged to at least miss the first couple of innings.

Sullivan said fans need a way to express frustration at the prospect of a players' strike that could wipe out the baseball season.

Meanwhile in New York, fans formed "Strike 3, The Fans Are Out" with the same idea.

American League games August 13 are scheduled in New York, Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Kansas City and Oakland. National League games are scheduled in Miami, Denver, Montreal, Atlanta, St. Louis, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Dream Team II whips German nat'l team

US hoopsters lose to Italy in Goodwill semis

CHARLOTTE, NC (AP) – At 7-foot-1, 300 lbs, it's pretty hard to hide Shaquille O'Neal on the bench.

The Orlando center didn't start in Dream Team II's opening exhibition game Tuesday night against the German national team because it was at the Charlotte Coliseum – Alonzo Mourning's home court.

But once in the game, O'Neal quickly intimidated the Germans with his monstrous dunks and powerful inside moves as the US national team downed the 1993 European champions 114-81 in a tuneup for next month's World Championships in Toronto.

Detroit's Joe Dumars also had a strong game as a substitute, scoring 16 of his 20 points in the second half and handing out nine assists.

Coach Don Nelson, who said he will rotate his lineups, started Mourning and Larry Johnson, but the two Hornets quickly got into foul trouble after the US reeled off 12 straight points to start the game.

Nelson's first substitute at the 12:02 mark was O'Neal for Mourning, and the 1993 NBA rookie of the year received a loud ovation from the sellout crowd of 23,690.

The Germans trimmed the score to 21-14 before O'Neal made seven of eight shots in the final 9:43 of the first half, several on follows and several more on thunderous slams. He also grabbed five rebounds and blocked two shots.

O'Neal finished with 14 points, spending the final 12:11 of the game on the bench after picking up his fourth foul.

Reggie Miller of Indiana and Kevin Johnson of Phoenix, who both started along with Phoenix forward Dan Majerle, provided Nelson with good court leadership and the fast pace he was looking for early. Miller scored 19 points, while Johnson handed out nine assists.

"The Russians are maybe the only team that can keep up with Dream Team II," Germany coach Dirk Bauermann said. "Obviously, Dream Team II is going to win the gold without too much trouble."

Michael Koch led the Germans with 18 points, hitting all 12 of his free throws.

Meanwhile in St. Petersburg yesterday, Italy knocked the US out of contention for the basketball gold medal at the Goodwill Games, beating the young American team 81-72 in the semifinals.

Italy will play for the gold today against the winner of the Russia-Puerto Rico semifinal scheduled for late last night. The US will play the loser for the bronze medal.

It was the second defeat of these Games for the US team, comprised strictly of college undergraduates. They lost to Russia 77-75 in the preliminary round.

Paolo Conti and Paolo Moretti topped Italy with 17 points.



FULL THROTTLE – Dream Team II's Larry Johnson fends off German Henning Harnisch on a dash to the basket. (AP)

Becker, Ivanisevic to join Mansdorf in TA exhibition

ORI LEWIS

BORIS Becker, Goran Ivanisevic, Amos Mansdorf and a fourth player from the Arab world – possibly Morocco's up-and-coming Kareem Alami – will appear at an evening of exhibition tennis in Tel Aviv in November.

Ma'ariv, the Israel Tennis Association and private sponsors will organize the event.

The organizers are putting up prize money to the tune of $250,000 for the event, which will be held at Yad Eliyahu on an indoor carpet, the same surface which was used for the Israel-France Davis Cup tie in 1989.

Mansdorf has reportedly taken the initiative in getting the stars to come, using his influence and contacts.

Becker and Ivanisevic will arrive in Israel following the ATP World Championships in Frankfurt during the week of November 15-20.

Israel Tennis Association Chairman David Harnik said he welcomed the event and did not think it would diminish the importance of Israel's upcoming Davis Cup tie with Belgium or the Eisenberg Israel Open in October.

"The ITA welcomes and will support any tennis event in Israel," he said. "We will do everything to help make this a success," he continued.

Sweden: 10,000 high school students have tried steroids

STOCKHOLM (AP) – More than 10,000 Swedish high school students, about 3 percent overall, have used anabolic steroids at least once, according to preliminary results of a recent study published yesterday.

Almost all of those who said they had used the performance-enhancing drugs were boys, *Svenska Dagbladet* reported in a front-page story quoting the study by the Central Association Against Alcohol and Narcotics.

Students at 10 high schools throughout Sweden were asked to answer questions about their use of steroids, which have negative side effects on males including high blood pressure, volatile behavior, liver cancer and sterility.

Most of the steroids are smuggled into Sweden from east European countries. Steroid use is prohibited in Swedish sports and in recent years most federations have stiffened the penalties for athletes who test positive.

Smadja to meet judo heavies

HEATHER CHAIT

THE Halfway Tournament, marking exactly two years since the Barcelona Olympics, will mark the beginning of preparations in earnest for judoka Olympic bronze medalist Oren Smadja before his appearance in Atlanta two years from now.

The tournament will pit Smadja at 76 kilograms, against fighters up to 95kg. "Oren needs to fight heavy opponents who can challenge his ability," says coach Moshe Pondak, adding, "in his own category, he is the undisputed king."

Only two weight groups will be contested, until 71kg and from 71-95kg with Israel's outstanding judokas participating.

Among those who will be competing against Smadja will be Ya'acov Dabul (86kg), Shani Herskin (86kg), Pablo Musin (95kg), Arik Ze'evi (95kg) and Simon Magiashvilli (95kg).

Guy Fogel, bronze medalist in the European Youth Championships, is the favorite in the lighter class. He will face Bronislav Malinski, silver medalist in European Youth Championships, Gil Ofer and Erez Jerassi.

The preliminary rounds begin at noon on Saturday at Herzliya's Makif Hall with the semifinals and finals from 5 pm. Entrance is free.

Dan Schneider reaches softball finals

LARRY LEVENBERG

DAN Schneider Sports reached the finals of The Jerusalem Post Softball League by beating Pasta La Pizza 13-7 on Tuesday. Jeff Muoio hit a home run and had four RBIs while father Jim Muoio knocked in three runs. Art Lenk had three hits and Mitch Pilcer won on the mound.

For the Pastans, Effy Reeback had two hits.

Hasaot Benny tied their best-of-three semifinal series at one game apiece by beating Shani Tal Tigers 14-7. Burt Tannenbaum was the winning pitcher, backed by a bases-loaded triple by Brad Schacter, a three-bagger by Kenny Cohen and a two-run double by Bernie Kaffell.

The Tigers were led by Ari Kanterowicz's two home runs and a solo shot by Dan Rotem.

The third game of the semifinals is scheduled for tonight at Kibbutz Gezer at 19:30.

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

Buck Johnson to Hapoel Tel Aviv

JOEL GORDIN

HAPOEL Tel Aviv basketball team has signed its second American to play alongside Milton Wagner who has joined from Betar Ramat Gan. He is Buck Johnson, formerly of the Houston Rockets and the Washington Bullets, who has also played in Turkey.

Due to budgetary difficulties, Hapoel has been forced to give up Tomer Steinhauer and David Thirdkill to Hapoel Holon and Shimon Amsalem who has opened negotiations with Hapoel Gvat.

Last year's foreign player, Nanad Marcovic, has left the country.

Those joining the club are Gilad Katz from Betar Ramat Gan, James Terry (Hapoel Nahariya) and Bennie Marcus (second division Maccabi Haifa).

Hapoel will be this year's representative in the European Club Championship, together with Maccbai Tel Aviv.

Sharon bowlers win 4's league

SAM SKUDOWITZ

THE bowls quartet of Yosh Ecksnein, Tzachi Eckstein, Ronald Pruss and Herzl Dunsky of Ramat Hasharon won the Mendie Donner Memorial Afternoon Fours league competition on Tuesday. They beat Arye Kaplan, Alec Sevel, Ronny Kaufman and Moshe Rubin of Netanya.

The women's event was an all-Ra'anana final with Maureen Hirschowitz, Merle Swerdlow, Isobel Myers and Channa Goldberg beating Bessie Rosenberg, Shirley Shamos, Hadassah Fisher and Shirley Kantor in an exciting finish.

In an all-Kfar Maccabiah contest, Pnina Gelbgisser, Haya Prager and Lola Skikne beat Molly Skudowitz, Lorraine Rabman and Carmel Scop in the Savyon Classics.

Chaim Miller, Maximo Wagensberg, Micha Farkash, also of Kfar Hamaccabiah, beat Eli Iron, Eli Gonen and Itzik Sher of Savyon on an extra end to help wrap up the men's crown.

RATES

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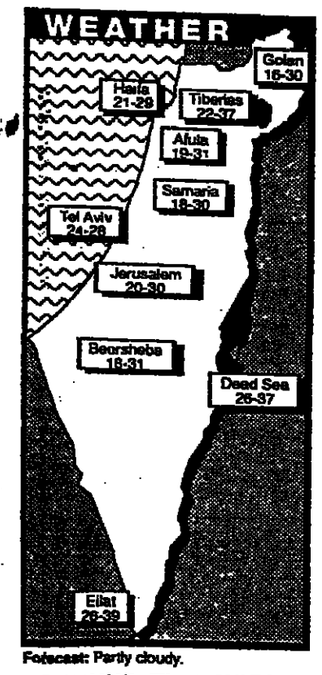
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WEATHER



Forecast: Partly cloudy.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	17	63	30	86	p'cloudy
Berlin	21	70	35	95	cloudy
Buenos Aires	05	41	15	59	clear
Cairo	24	75	36	97	clear
Chicago	16	60	28	79	cloudy
Copenhagen	19	66	30	86	clear
Frankfurt	19	66	33	91	clear
Geneva	18	64	33	91	clear
Helsinki	13	55	27	81	clear
Hong Kong	28	79	29	84	cloudy
Jo'burg	03	27	09	48	clear
Lisbon	17	63	33	91	clear
London	19	66	26	79	cloudy
Los Angeles	20	68	32	86	clear
Madrid	21	70	38	100	clear
Marseilles	17	63	26	79	p'cloudy
Moscow	14	57	23	73	clear
New York	22	71	30	86	rain
Paris	17	63	32	90	p'cloudy
Rome	20	68	30	86	clear
Stockholm	15	59	28	82	clear
Sydney	07	45	17	63	clear
Tokyo	27	81	34	93	cloudy
Toronto	14	57	23	73	clear
Vienna	21	70	32	90	cloudy

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS23.70 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS468.00 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

Conducted Tours

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of our installations, call Jerusalem 619222; Tel Aviv 5233154. Hours: 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. The Story of Masada◇Alessi - For the Sake of Use◇Photography at the Bauhaus◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Six Renaissance and Baroque Paintings◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇Jewish Artists in Europe between the Wars◇Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th Cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Video: Bill Viola, The Reflecting Pool (collected work). **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Bill Viola: Unseen Images, 7 video installations. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center,** Tel. 6919155.

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Center Pharm, Malha mall, 793260; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: Grosso, 27 Sheinkin (cnr Yosef Hanassi), 5284781; Superpharm, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 6413730. Till 3 a.m. Friday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.

Ra'anana-Kfar Saba: Clal Pharm, 114 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 910211.

Netanya: Netanya, 11 Herzl, 822842.

Krayot area: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 1 Moshe Goshen, Kiryat Motzkin, 717063.

Haifa: Hanassi Denya, 99 Abba Khoushy, 341113.

Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Jabotinsky (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570488. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, obstetrics); Hadassah Ein Karem (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.

Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (surgery).

Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100
FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 851333	Karmiel* 988555
Ashkelon 651332	Kfar Sava* 03-9311111
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 9311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944394
Bet Shemesh 523133	Naharlya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 823333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 06-323333	Rehovot* 461332
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9842333
Hatzor* 926333	Safed 920333
Hefa* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111.
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790117

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110

Eran — Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 616303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 5961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 345789.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-528206, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Emergency dental clinic (24 hours) 02-632303.

Emergency dental clinic (24 hours inc. holidays) 03-6968840, 050-318777.

FIRE 102

FLIGHTS

24 Hours Flight Information Service: Arrivals only, 03-9731111 (Hebrew), 03-9731122 (English)

CRITIC'S CHOICE

EXHIBITION

HELEN KAYE

JUDAICA is the subject of the Diaspora Museum's newest exhibition, *Rediscovered Treasures*. The more than 200 objects spanning almost 300 years – from the late 17th century to the 1930s – come from the Lvov Museum of Ethnography and Crafts in Ukraine. They comprise a treasure of Jewish ritual and folk art, which developed in the Jewish communities of Eastern Galicia.

At the Diaspora Museum on the Tel Aviv University campus.

FILM

HELEN KAYE

THE Grateful Dead, a solidly popular rock band for more than 30 years, are featured in a documentary marathon at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque. Join, vicariously, the Deadheads fan club to watch Dead videos of concerts and other material. Today from 9 p.m. to midnight.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

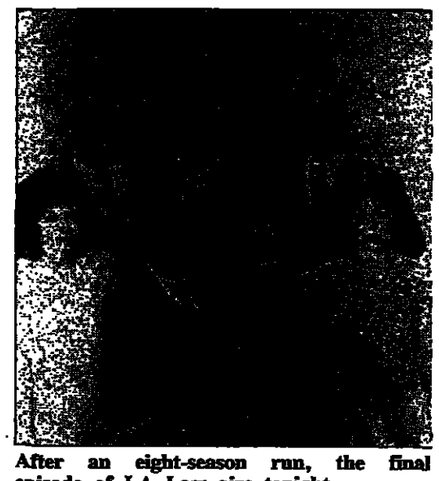
MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

In Jerusalem, enjoy Lina Guberman, cellist Roman Broido and pianist Marina Solovodnik as they perform music by Beethoven and Mendelssohn at 11 a.m. tomorrow at the Tichó House Gallery of the Israel Museum. At 9:15 p.m. Saturday, the Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem is hosting a harp-and-flute recital.

EVENT

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem is organizing a special event for night-stalkers in Jerusalem.



After an eight-season run, the final episode of LA Law airs tonight.

Participants will tour unknown and more familiar cemeteries through Jerusalem, will visit the museum and will hear a lecture about funeral rites in ancient times. From 5 to 2 a.m. at the museum.

TELEVISION

PENNY STARR

WITH some zapping of the remote control you can catch all the good shows tonight and still go out for a coffee with friends. Start early, at 7:30, with the New Channel 2's silly-but-fun new game show, *Be a Man*, in which male contestants have to do things like change a baby's diapers and fold the laundry. Stay tuned to 2, after the news, for the gentle sitcom *Dave's World* at 8:30.

Switch to Channel 1 at 9 for the first part of the five-part documentary series, *China Time*. It shows the history of the nation and the changes taking place in that country of a billion people.

CINEMA

CINEMATHEQUE ☎ 724131**Tell Them Willie Boy Is Here** 7 ★ **Flight of the Innocent** 9 ★ **They Live By Night** 11 G.G. GIL **Jerusalem Mall (Malha)** ☎ 788448 **Maverick** 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Secret Garden** 11 a.m., 1:30 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **Naked Gun** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Getaway** 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ **Rouge** 5, 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Jurassic Park** 11 a.m., 1:30 ★ **Schindler's List** 9:30 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 4, 6, 8, 10 ISRAEL MUSEUM **Short Cuts** 9 JERUSALEM THEATER ☎ 617167 20 Marcus St. **Nani Moretti's Diary** 7, 9:30 ★ **Rouge** 7, 9:30 ★ **Baraka** 5 ORION OR 1-6 ☎ 252914 4 Shamai St. **Kika** □ **Malice** □ **Kalifornia** □ **Short Time** 5, 7:15, 9:30 ★ **The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil** 7:15, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 **Credit Card Reservations** ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* □ **Serial Mom** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Speed** 11 a.m., 6, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Ace Venture** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Surf Ninjas** 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Sidekicks** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Leon** 5 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. **My Girl 2** 10:45 a.m., 5 ★ **Philadelphia** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Speed** 10:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30

TEL AVIV

RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282268* Dizengoff Center **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Sidekicks** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Blink** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 ★ **Speed** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Ace Venture** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 CINEMATHEQUE **Cup Final** 5 ★ **Tarzan's Secret Treasure** 7 ★ At 9: **Grateful Dead Marathon** DEKEL ☎ 5443200 94 Yehuda Hamaccabi St. **Philadelphia** 7:30, 9:45 DIZENGOFF 1-3 ☎ 200485 Dizengoff Center **Getaway** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Baraka** 11 a.m., 3, 7:30 ★ **Blanc** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Reservoir Dogs** 1:30, 12:15 a.m.; 5:15, 9:45 DRIVE IN **Hear No Evil** 10 ★ **Sex Film** 12 midnight GAN HA'IR 71 Ibn Gabirol St. **Kentucky Fried Movie** 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT ☎ 6967888* 26 Ibn Gabirol St. **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 GORDON ☎ 5236992 87 Ben Yehuda St. **The Unbelievable Truth** 6:30, 10 ★ **Trust** 8 ★ **My Michael** 5 G.G. HOD 1–4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. **Free Willy** □ **Jurassic Park** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ ★ **The Secret Garden** □ **Land Before Time** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 ★ **In the Name of the Father** □ **Fearless** 7:30, 10 LEV **The Hudsucker Proxy** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 10 ★ **Go Fish** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Kalifornia** 11 a.m., 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 ★ **Naked** 1, 3:15, 10 ★ **Kika** 11 a.m., 1, 5:30, 7:30 MAXIM **The Age of Innocence** 7:15, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674* Opera House **Short Cuts** 2, 5:30, 9 ★ **Serial Mom** 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Curley's Gold** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Shadowlands** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Age of Innocence** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Late Summer Blues** 5 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 ☎ 5271645 Kikar Namir **Schindler's List** 5, 8:45 ★ **Maverick** 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St., **The Paper** □ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **On Deadly Ground** 5, 7:30 G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. **Naked Gun** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 4, 6, 8, 10 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 ★ **Maverick** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Strawberries** 11:30 a.m. TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961297 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard **Nani Moretti's Diary** 4, 8, 10 ★ **The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil** 6 ZAFON ☎ 5443966 18 Louis Marshall St. **Rouge** 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA

CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 325755 **Schindler's List** 6:15, 9 ★ **Kika** 9:30 ★ **My Girl 2** 7 ATZMON **Maverick** 4:30, 6:45, 9:15 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 ★ **Getaway** ★ **Naked Gun** 4:30, 7, 9:15 CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH ☎ 242477 **Alex** 5:30 ★ **Go Fish** 7:30, 9:30 ORLY **Curly's Gold** 7, 9:15 PANORAMA **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 ★ **Rouge** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Secret Garden** 11 a.m. ★ **Beethoven 2** 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 ★ **Baraka** 9:30 ★ **Orlando** 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7, 9:15 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Girls** 11 a.m. ★ **Speed** 4:30, 7, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 **Ace Venture** □ **Sidekicks** 11 a.m., 1, 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **My Father the Hero** 11 a.m., 7, 9:30 ★ **Speed** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7, 9:30 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 4, 5 ★ **Blink** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Curley's Gold** 9:30 ★ **Leon** 11 a.m. ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 1, 4:45, 7 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246553 **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7, 9:15 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 4:30 ★ **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ **Surf Ninjas** 4:45 ★ **Hasamba** 11 a.m. ★ **Serial Mom** 7, 9:15 ★ **Hasamba** 11 a.m.

ASHDOD

G.G. GIL **Free Willy** □ **Speed** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Ace Venture** □ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:30 ★ **Maverick** 7:30, 10

ASHKELON

RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 **Philadelphia** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **My Girl 2** □ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Getaway** ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Speed** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Leon** 5 ★ G.G. GIL **Maverick** 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Secret Garden** 11 a.m., 1:30 ★ **Free Willy** ★ **Beethoven 2** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30 ★ **Kalifornia** 9:30 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Rouge** 7:30, 10 ★ **Jurassic Park** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5

BAT YAM

RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 **Sidekicks** ★ **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Speed** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Getaway** 9:45 ★ **Maverick** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Leon** 11 a.m. ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 5 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45

BEERSHEBA

G.G. ESHEL ☎ 274073 **Maverick** 7:30, 10 ★ **Funny Israelis** weekdays 5 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Shadowlands** 9:45 ★ **Tom & Jerry** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m. ★ **Girls** 1 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Speed** 5, 7:15, 9:45

DIMONA

MOFET **Beethoven 2**, 8

HADERA

LEV **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 12:30, 8, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 10:30 a.m, 12:15, 2, 4:30, 6:15 ★ **Maverick** 8, 10 ★ **Beethoven** 10:30 a.m., 4:30, 6:15 ★ **Speed** 2:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ **Ace Venture** 10:30 a.m., 12:15, 2, 4, 6:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy** 10:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 8

HERZLIYA

COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902666 **Shadowlands** □ **In the Name of the Father** 7:30, 10 DANIEL HOTEL ☎ 544044 **THE AUDITORIUM Rouge** 7:15, 9:30 STAR ☎ 589068 29 Sokolow St. **Beethoven 2** 11 a.m., 1, 4:30 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 6:30 ★ **Ace Ventura** 6:30, 8:30 ★ **Maverick** 10:15 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 4:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 6:30, 8, 10

HOD HASHARON

MOFET **My Father the Hero** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Wooden Gun** 5

KARMIEL

CINEMA 1–3 ☎ 887277 **In the Name of the Father** 9:30 ★ **Ace Venture** 11 a.m., 5, 7 ★ **Hasamba** 5 ★ **Speed** 7, 9:30 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA

AMAL **Pink Floyd at Pompei** 8:30 G.G. GIL **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30 ★ **Maverick** 5, 7:45, 10:15 ★ **Ace Ventura** 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 ★ **Rouge** 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 8, 10 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6, 8 ★ **Airborne** 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 ★ **Speed** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Getaway** 7:30, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK

G.G. KIRYON 1-9 ☎ 779166 **Maverick** □ **Free Willy** ★ **Curley's Gold** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Airborne** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **In the Name of the Father** □ **Rouge** 7, 9:30 ★ **Aristocats** 11 a.m., 4:45 ★ **Naked Gun 33⅓** 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:30

KIRYAT MALACHI

HAKIRYA **Curley's Gold** 5, 7:30, 9:30 HECHAL HATARBUT ☎ 580526 1 Ben Gurion Boulevard **Philadelphia** 9:30 ★ **Crossfire** 7:30

KIRYAT ONO

MATNAS **Schindler's List** 8:30

MIGDAL HA'EMEK

RAV CHEN **Ace Venture** □ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5, 7, 9:30 ★ **Leon** 5 ★ **The Getaway** 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA

HECHAL HATARBUT **Curley's Gold** 7, 9:15 HOD ☎ 920502 **Aristocats** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 ★ **Philadelphia** 7, 9:30

NESS ZIONA

G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 **Maverick** 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Beethoven 2** □ **Airborne** 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 ★ **Kalifornia** □ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7:30, 10

NETANYA

G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 **Maverick** 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45, 7:30, 10 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Rouge** 10 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6, 8 ★ **Getaway** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7:30, 10 ★ **Airborne** 7:30, 10 RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m. 1 ★ **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Speed** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Leon** 1 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Sidekicks** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45

OR YEHUDA

G.G. GIL **Philadelphia** □ **Blink** 5, 7:45, 9:45 ★ **Surf Ninjas** □ **Homeward Bound** □ **Aristocats** □ **Tom and Jerry** 11:30 a.m. ★ **Romeo** 5, 7:45, 10 ★ **American Heart** 5, 7:30, 10

PETAH TIKVA

G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 **Free Willy** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Speed** 7:45, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 8, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 **Maverick** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Getaway** □ **Curley's Gold** 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA

MOFET **Short Cuts** 8:45 ★ **Amazing Grace** ?PARK **Free Willy** 10:45 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30 ★ **Maverick** 7:30, 10 ★ **Speed** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Strawberries** 3

RAMAT GAN

RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121* **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 3, 7:30 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 ★ **Hasamba** 3 ★ **Blink** 9:45 ★ **Philadelphia** 9:45 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30 ★ **Ace Ventura** 1, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 5730687 **Speed** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Maverick** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Ace Ventura** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Airborne** □ **Leon** 5

RAMAT HASHARON

KOKHAV **The Getaway** 7:15, 9:30

REHOVOT

CHEN 1–4 ☎ 485879 **Maverick** 7:15, 10 ★ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 4, 6 ★ **Rouge** 10 ★ **Ace Ventura** 11 a.m., 5:30, 8:15 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 7:45, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 3:45, 5:30 ★ **Speed** 5, 7:15, 9:45

RISHON LEZION

NA'AMAN ☎ 941522 **Schindler's List** 5, 8:45 RAV-CHEN 1–4 ☎ 9870503/7 **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 ★ **My Girl 2** 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 ★ **Ace Venture** 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Girls** 1 ★ **Speed** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Sidekicks** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 RISHON ☎ 9653230 **Kika** 7:30, 9:45 G.G. RON 1-3 ☎ 9662175 **Curley's Gold** □ **Mrs Doubtfire** weekdays 7:30, 9:30 HAZAHAV **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Maverick** 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:45, 10:15 ★ **Airborne** 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30

RISHON NEW IND. AREA

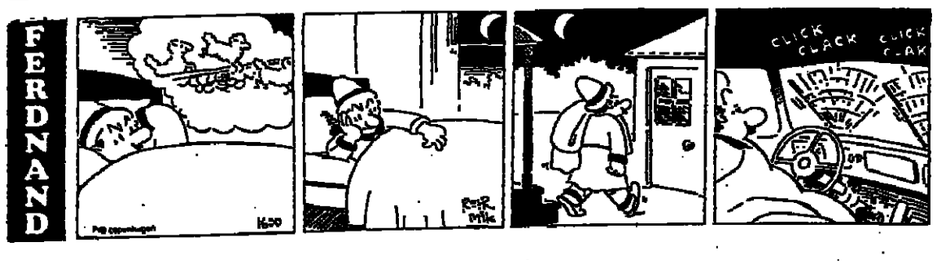
GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619669 **Ace Ventura** □ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 ★ **Getaway** 7:30, 10 ★ **In the Name of the Father** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(English dialogue)* 8, 10 ★ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 4, 6 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. **The Beverly Hillbillies** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **Kika** 7:30, 10 ★ **My Girl 2** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7:30, 10 ★ **Curley's Gold** 7:30, 10 ★ **Speed** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Homeward Bound** 11:30 a.m., 5

UPPER NAZARETH

G.G GIL ☎ 06-561332 **Curley's Gold** 7:30, 10 ★ **Airborne** 11:30 a.m., 5 ★ **The Getaway** □ **Speed** □ **The Lion King** *(Hebrew dialogue)* □ **Free Willy** 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Beethoven 2** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 ★ **Kika** 9:30 ★ **Maverick** 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:45, 12:15

* **Tone phone reservations 03-5252244**

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.



TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1

6.30 News in Arabic **6.45** Winnie the Pooh **7.00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8.00 Moomins **8.25** Mrs. Pepper **8.35** Cartoon **9.00** At Fistuk's Place **9.30** Discoveries Unlimited **10.00** Operation Patch **10.30** Just the Ten of Us **11.00** Summer Fun **12.30** Young Riders **13.30** Made in Barcelona – documentary series (part 4) **14.00** Moosh Stories **14.20** Hey Binba **14.30** Home **15.00** Ototo – local program

■ CHANNEL 1

15.35 Winnie the Pooh **16.00** News update **16.15** We Set a Date at 4:15 **17.00** A New Evening **17.40** Who's Afraid of the Dark – Canadian series **18.15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18.30 Encounter – current affairs **19.00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS

19.30 Brooklyn Bridge – comedy series **20.00** Mabet **21.00** China Time – five-part documentary series filmed during one month in China showing the history of the people and the changes taking place **21.55** L.A. Law (last part) **22.40** Songs from program Taverna **23.00** Late-night news **23.10** Through the World's Eye – ideas and happenings seen through television's and the media's eye **23.55** Dream On

■ THE NEW CHANNEL 2

11.00 Duck Tales **11.25** Thunderbirds **11.50** T & T **12.15** Sinbad **12.40** Cartoons **13.00** Disney Time – cartoons **14.05** Spending – consumer magazine for youth **14.30** White Fang **15.00** Yosef the Storyteller **15.30** Double Dare – game show **16.00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17.00** Line to the News **17.30** A Matter of Time – Israeli series about 11th-grade students **18.00** Thunder in Paradise **19.00** Home and Away **19.30** Be a Man – Game show **20.00** News **20.30** Dave's World **21.00** Extra – local entertainment and leisure magazine **21.30** Humor and satire **22.00** Eastern Wind – Mediterranean-style entertainment and music program **22.45** Time Trax **23.30** News **23.35** Continuation of Time Trax **23.45** Close to Midnight – short films by Israeli students

■ JORDAN TV (unofficial)

17.00 French programs **18.30** News in French **19.00** News in Hebrew **19.30** Documentary **20.00** News in Arabic **20.30** Da Beat's On **21.10** Murder She Wrote **22.00** News in English **22.20** Feature Film

■ MIDDLE EAST TV

14.00 The 700 Club **14.55** Film: Siege of Sidney Street – Small band of political rebels terrorize London in 1911. Starring Donald Sinden, Nicole Berger **16.30** Mighty Mouse **17.20** Dangermouse **17.45** Superbook **18.10** Hawaii Five-O **19.10** Rescue 911 **20.00** World News Tonight: Arabic **20.30** CNN Headline News **21.00** Edison Mansion **21.30** Jake and the Fatman **22.20** Law and Order **23.10** The 700 Club **00.00** Film: Siege of Sidney Street (rpt)

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8.00 Local broadcast **9.00** One Life to Live **9.45** The Young and The Restless **10.30** Guests in the Living Room **11.00** I Love Lucy **11.30** Antonella **12.15** Murphy Brown **12.40** Falcon Crest **13.30** Coach **14.00** Israeli Clips **14.10** Dangerous Women **15.00** Topaz **15.50** Knots Landing **16.40** Three's Company **17.05** Love Boat **17.50** Israeli Clips **18.00** One Life to Live **18.45** The Young and the Restless **19.30** Local broadcast **20.00** Entertainment news **20.05** Antonella **20.50** Entertainment news **21.00** Falcon Crest **21.50** Entertainment news **21.00** Sapphire **22.10** Law and Order **22.55** Entertainment news **23.05** The Commish **23.50** New WKRP in Cincinnati **00.15** Quantum Leap **1.05** Kojak **1.55** The Equalizer **2.45** Murder She Wrote **3.35** Remington Steele **4.25** Matt Houston

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10.30 Big Wednesday (1978) (rpt) **12.30** The Little Princess (1939) – Shirley Temple plays a little Victorian girl sent to a strict boarding school while her father is abroad. Directed by Walter Lang (92 mins) **14.05** Silhouette (1990) (rpt) **15.30** Viva Zapata (1951) – Marlon Brando stars as the Mexican revolutionary in this movie by Elia Kazan **17.25** Indian movie **19.00** The Sinking of the Rainbow Warrior (1992) (rpt) **20.30** *Behind the scenes – Speed* **21.00** *Bill and* Ted's Bogus Journey (1991) – goofy comedy sequel a la *Wayne's World* has Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter as the dumb dude duo battling a pair of robotic imposters. George Carlin also stars. Directed by Peter Hewitt (88 mins) **22.30** Peter's Friends (1992) (rpt) **00.10** Frank et Moi – erotic movie **1.40** Mediterraneo (1992) (rpt) **3.10** Matters of the Heart (1990) (rpt) **4.45** Little Man Tate (1991) (rpt)

■ CHILDREN'S CHANNEL (6)

6.30 Cartoons **9.05** Bunch of Munsch **9.30** Once Upon a Time **10.05** Batman **10.30** Xuxa **11.00** Loony Toons **11.30** The Muppets **12.00** My Two Dads **12.30** My Secret Identity **13.00** Degrassi High **13.30** Big Brother Jake **14.00** Cartoons **14.35** Bunch of Munsch **15.00** Once Upon a Time **15.35** Batman **16.00** Xuxa **16.30** Loony Toons **17.00** The Muppets **17.30** My Two Dads **18.00** My Secret Identity **18.30** *Degrassi High* **19.00** *Big Brother Jake* **19.30** Neighbors **19.55** Married with Children **20.20** The Simpsons **20.45** All in the Family **21.10** Hunter

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22.00 Privates on Parade (1983) – comedy about a group of entertainers sent to entertain the troops in Singapore in the late 1940s. Dennis Quilley plays the "camp" cabaret director, and John Cleese is his stupid commanding officer. Directed by Michael Blakemore (107 mins) **23.55** A Night to Remember (1958) – docu-drama about the 1912 sinking of the Titanic. Starring Kenneth More, Honor Blackman and David McCallum. Directed by Roy Baker (118 mins)

■ DISCOVERY CHANNEL (8)

Open University: 25 Years of Landing on the Moon **11.00** Nordic Fauna **11.30** Wild South **12.00** De Gaulle and France **13.00** Birds of Australia **14.00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **16.00** Nordic Fauna **16.30** Wild South **17.00** De Gaulle and France **18.00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **20.00** Extra **21.00** Strauss's Capriccio – with Kiri Te Kanawa **23.30** Masters of Tap **00.00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs)

###

Panel expected to okay Clalit funds

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Treasury yesterday asked the Knesset finance committee to approve a NIS 600 million emergency funding package to keep Kupat Holim Clalit running for the next two months.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Ramon, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh and Kupat Holim Clalit director-general Avigdor Kaplan agreed last Friday on the interim assistance program until they come up with a recovery program for the health fund at the beginning of October.

Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair gave the agreement the green light and the committee is expected to approve it today.

Under the proposal, the government will pay NIS 520m., while the remaining NIS 80m. will come from deferring the payment of clothing and leisure allowances to Clalit workers.

The government's NIS 520m. grant consists of NIS 220m. in new funding, a forgiven loan of NIS 180m. that Clalit received for using government hospitals, and the NIS 120m. loan repayment the government will receive from the Histadrut for its NIS 400m. loan to Clalit last month.

The money will be transferred to the health fund under the following timetable:

On August 5, it will pay NIS 60m. and the forgiven loan of NIS 180m.

On August 15, the government will transfer NIS 50m., followed by a payment of NIS 40m. on September 5. The government will pay out to Clalit any sum transferred to it by the Histadrut out of the NIS 120m. loan repayment within 7 days. Once the whole sum is repaid, the government will transfer an additional NIS 70m. to Clalit by September 15.

If the sides fail to settle on an overall recovery program, the government will be entitled to recover the aid extended to Clalit from the money the fund gets through the National Insurance Institute.

The recovery program will address the fund's 1994 operating deficit and will aim to balance its budget by the end of 1996 by permanently reducing expenditures. The plan must include a minimum cut in spending of NIS 104m. for this year.

The Treasury and the Histadrut have narrowed their disagreement on the size of Clalit's deficit this year and will likely agree on NIS 850m.

The parties also agreed to initiate the process of turning Kupat Holim's hospitals into independent non-profit corporations as of January. During the process, they will review the repercussions of the move on the fund and on its financial stability.

Michal Yudelman adds:

Ramon yesterday issued a statement expressing regret at the Kupat Holim workers' rejection of his offer that they temporarily give up 50% of their clothing allowance and 100% of their leisure allowance. Ramon noted that Clalit is in dire straits and that to keep its part of the recovery program, the Histadrut would have to mortgage some of its properties.

The request to delay payment of these allowances was made only of those workers who earn NIS 3,000 or more gross, Ramon noted.

Health law will lead to axing of 400 Histadrut tax collectors

MICHAL YUDELMAN

AT least 400 of the Histadrut's 550 tax collectors are about to be dismissed with the implementation of the state health insurance law, when the National Insurance Institution takes over tax collection for the health funds.

Axing the tax collectors is one of the first steps to be taken by Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Ramon, who has made it clear that he prefers firing all of the Histadrut Headquarters' 1,000 workers and running the place with 150 of his own men.

The tax collectors besieged the doors of Histadrut headquarters earlier this week – preventing the first session of the new Histadrut parliament – in protest of the plans to render them redundant by the health insurance law. Only after a promise from two new Histadrut leaders, treasurer Haim Oron and trade union section chairman Amir Peretz, to prevent the mass dismissals did the workers calm down and the meeting finally begin.

But despite these promises, hundreds of tax collectors – many who have served the Histadrut loyally for several decades – are afraid for their jobs.

Ramon, who only last week promised to carry out any dismissals without reaching an agreement with the workers' staff committee, said yesterday that he could continue employing only 50 of the tax collectors in other positions in the Histadrut headquarters. The rest, he implied, would find themselves out on the street.

Ramon spoke after a meeting with Health Minister Ora Namir, who is recuperating at her Tel Aviv residence. Namir promised that for every additional worker hired by the NII, following the introduction of the health law, will be fired from Histadrut's tax collection department.

However, this will ensure jobs only for a maximum of 100 workers.

Hearing for naming GSS head in 4 months

EVELYN GORDON

THE fact that the current head of the General Security Service is a very public person might make a difference in whether his name should be allowed to be published, the High Court of Justice said yesterday.

The court heard a petition by the Shocken newspaper chain, owners of *Ha'aretz* and the Jerusalem weekly *Kol Ha'ir*, protesting the military censor's decision to remove the GSS chief's name from a *Kol Ha'ir* article in May.

Since the current GSS head has made numerous public appearances, the petition argued, culminating in a meeting with senior PLO officials in Cairo, there is no danger to state security from publishing his name since any hostile Arab who wants to know could find out easily. Only the Israeli public is being kept in the dark, the petition said.

Justices Shlomo Levine, Dov Levine and Ya'akov Kedmi appeared to be swayed by this argument. At the start of the hearing, Shlomo Levine asked the state to rethink its objections, in light of the fact that the man's identity is already widely known.

Dov Levine also seemed to reject an argument by state representative Nili Arad, who heads the Justice Ministry's high court division, that revealing the GSS chief's name would inevitably expose his colleagues in the field.

This might be true of a man with a narrow circle of acquaintances, Arad said, but with a man who moves in many different circles – "who continually exposes himself [to the public eye], and whom the state exposes" – it would not be clear which of his acquaintances were also his colleagues.

However, Arad said the state could not accept the court's suggestion. Since the GSS chief is actively involved in operational maneuvers, the danger to state security would be too great, she said.

Furthermore, if the rule is to be that the man's name can be published as soon as enough identifying hints have appeared in the press, all that will happen is that the censor will be much stricter about what he allows to appear in the future, she said.

Arad added that she wanted a decision in principle on whether the name of any GSS head could be published, without reference to this specific case. However, attorney Mibi Moser, representing Shocken, said the court should relate to this case in particular.

The justices said they would consider both questions, but asked for comparative information on the secrecy surrounding the heads of similar agencies in other countries. They gave the state three months to get this information, and said another hearing would be held in four months.



Police remove a haredi during a demonstration in Jaffa against excavations in the area. (Israel News and Media)

Haredim clash with police, 25 arrested

RAINE MARCUS

SOME 25 haredim were arrested yesterday during clashes with police after a demonstration against excavations in Jaffa ended late in the afternoon.

Most of those arrested were released by evening, but some were held pending a probe, police said.

Over the past few months haredim have been protesting Antiquities Authority digging in the area because they claim Jewish remains are buried there. But the authority contends that the site, to be used for constructing apartment blocks, was once a Christian cemetery.

A month ago police and the authority reached an agreement with the haredim whereby excavators would stop digging if they reached graves or human remains.

Two weeks ago, a yeshiva student was arrested for allegedly stealing bones from the site after tying up and beating a guard. Yesterday's protest, in which more than a hundred haredim participated, turned violent when demonstrators began attacking police. They also overturned an Antiquities Authority jeep.

"We will carry on digging," said site manager Yossi Levy. "The people do not disturb us."

A statement released yesterday by the authority said the excavations were authorized by Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, on the condition that if human remains are found they will be transferred to the Religious Affairs Ministry for examination and burial.

Herb Keinon adds:

A few dozen haredim blocked Rehov Yehezkel in Jerusalem yesterday in protest against the Jaffa excavations. The protesters blocked the street with a huge garbage canister, and the municipality had to bring in a large truck to move it.

Flatto-Sharon charged with defrauding French firm

RAINE MARCUS

BUSINESSMAN and former MK Samuel Flatto-Sharon was charged with six counts of conspiracy, fraud and theft in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Claude Kleptsch, Michael Dar and Avi Tavissal were also indicted on the same charges. The four allegedly defrauded a French jewelry company, CPFI, out of millions of dollars.

According to the indictment, Flatto-Sharon masterminded the scam, taking advantage of the French company's difficulties to set it up.

In September 1992, Flatto-Sharon asked Tavissal, the owner of the Israel Diamond Center (IDC), to inform CPFI that his company was willing to invest in the French firm and be its Israeli representative. According to the indictment, Tavissal had no intention of actually investing in CPFI.

Claude Kleptsch was appointed manager of CPFI in November 1992 and allegedly worked in collaboration with Flatto-Sharon and Tavissal to defraud the company. Kleptsch first sent other CPFI managers on an annual vacation. Then, acting on instructions given by Flatto-Sharon and Tavissal, Kleptsch, who had signatory rights for CPFI, stole large amounts of money and jewelry from the company.

Michael Dar is employed by Flatto-Sharon in his Dizengoff Center offices in Tel Aviv and was allegedly sent by the latter to buy a Swiss firm, Lancel. He then opened bank accounts in the company's name. Money transferred from CPFI was funneled through these accounts, and Tavissal and Flatto-Sharon are accused of withdrawing around $500,000 from them.

In December 1992, read the charge sheet, Kleptsch, in his capacity as manager of CPFI, stole large amounts of gold jewelry, valued at $1.6 million, from the company and transferred them through Lancel to Tavissal's company here.

Group appeals decision to close Pinhasi probe

EVELYN GORDON

THE Movement for Quality Government in Israel yesterday appealed to the attorney-general against the police's decision to close an investigation of MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas), for allegedly bribing other MKs to vote against lifting his parliamentary immunity.

In March 1993, the Knesset voted 58-41 to lift Pinhasi's immunity so he could stand trial for not reporting Shas's payments to yeshiva students to the authorities during the 1988 elections.

However, the High Court of Justice ordered a revote on technical grounds, and last July the Knesset voted 54-50 not to lift Pinhasi's immunity.

The movement said it received information almost immediately after the vote that Pinhasi had bribed a number of MKs to switch their votes. The alleged bribes included promises of funding for certain projects from the Religious Affairs Ministry – of which Pinhasi was deputy minister at the time.

The movement gave this information to the police, but after 10 months, the police decided to close the file.

Ethiopian newcomers work with Jewish and Afro-American youth

DAVID RUDGE

ETHIOPIAN immigrants are helping to break new ground in relationships between Jewish and Afro-American teenagers at innovative summer camp projects on Mount Carmel.

One of the programs, which are being run at the Yemin Orde Youth Village, south of Haifa, is primarily aimed at bringing together future leaders from among the Afro-American community and Ethiopians who live and study in the village.

Eight pre-college students from Jersey City State College are taking part in the exchange program with a similar number of Ethiopians from the village.

They are all living alongside a group of American Jewish youths from Atlanta, as well as youths from Boston and Montreal who are taking part in another summer camp project at the village.

Dr. Chaim Peri, director of Yemin Orde, said the close encounters between the Afro-Americans and their Jewish American counterparts – through the auspices of the Ethiopians – had helped create greater understanding between the groups and helped break down stereotypes, against the background of ongoing tension between black and Jewish communities in the US.

Peri said members of the group sponsored by the Atlanta Jewish Federation had expressed similar sentiments, after meeting their Afro-American counterparts and working with Ethiopian immigrants and youths from veteran Israeli families.

He noted that the Atlanta group was involved in projects to assist older Ethiopians immigrants overcome difficulties in adapting to technology and the modern way of life in Israel.

These difficulties had created a "generation crisis" between Ethiopian parents and their children, he said. "The aim is to help reconstruct the authority and dignity of the parents in the eyes of their children," said Peri, who recently addressed the US congressional committee for education, labor and human rights at the invitation of members of the black congressional caucus.

"These two programs are addressing two major problems in America and Israel and the results have been very encouraging," he added.

Ex-council worker held for bribe-taking

BILL HUTMAN

A FORMER Jerusalem City Hall planner has been detained by police on suspicion he took bribes from residents in return for approving their construction plans. Police said additional arrests in connection with the case were expected.

The suspect had accomplices, although probably not from within City Hall, a source close to the case said. Yesterday, the suspect, Shmuel Erlichman, 36, was remanded for 10 days in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. Erlichman, who worked for the city from 1990 until two weeks ago, was detained Monday.

He allegedly demanded and received bribes from a number of residents in return for construction permits.

A neighborhood resident recently complained to police that Erlichman asked for NIS 4,000 in return for a construction permit.

The resident paid Erlichman, but later had second thoughts about the move and went to police, according to the police spokesman.

According to police, Erlichman has already confessed to a number of instances of bribery while working for the city. At first, however, he denied the charges, and refused to cooperate with investigators.

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NEW LEGISLATION

During a marathon meeting which began Tuesday afternoon and ended early yesterday morning, the Knesset approved the following legislation:

- **Wiretapping law amendment:** First reading: The bill expands the ban on eavesdropping to include recent innovations in technology, including facsimiles. It redefines the term "conversation" to include the new methods of communication and increases the penalties for violation of the law.
- **Religious courts law (upholding of divorce decisions):** First reading: The bill provides additional penalties to husbands who refuse to divorce their wives after a religious court has called on them to do so.
- **Computer law:** First reading: The bill is the first comprehensive legislation dealing with the computer. It defines the activities that are illegal with regard to computer use, such as sabotaging any type of computer function, destroying, erasing, or changing information or sending false material, etc.
- **Government companies law:** Final reading: The law allows for the appointment to the board of directors of public companies or the post of director-general candidates who do not have higher education provided they have proven experience in a relevant field.
- **Penal law amendment:** Final reading: The law expands the ban on racism to include racist acts.
- **State education law amendment:** Final reading: The law stipulates public schools will be barred from teaching less than six days a week unless the change is approved by the education minister and is carried out in accordance with rules and conditions set by him and okayed by the Knesset education committee.
- **Banking law (customer service) amendment:** First reading: The bill bars banks from advertising in schools.

Dan Izenberg

Historical Creations



(Actual Sizes Shown)

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2. **The Seven Branched Candelabrum**, holy artifact used in the days of the Temple
3. **David's Harp**, representing King David's harp, mentioned in the Bible
4. **The Date Palm**, one of the Seven Species of Eretz Yisrael
5. **An Ancient Ship**, representing seamanship and the art of shipbuilding in the time of Solomon

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